OH MY GOD!
WHAT AN ANGLE TO SHOOT!
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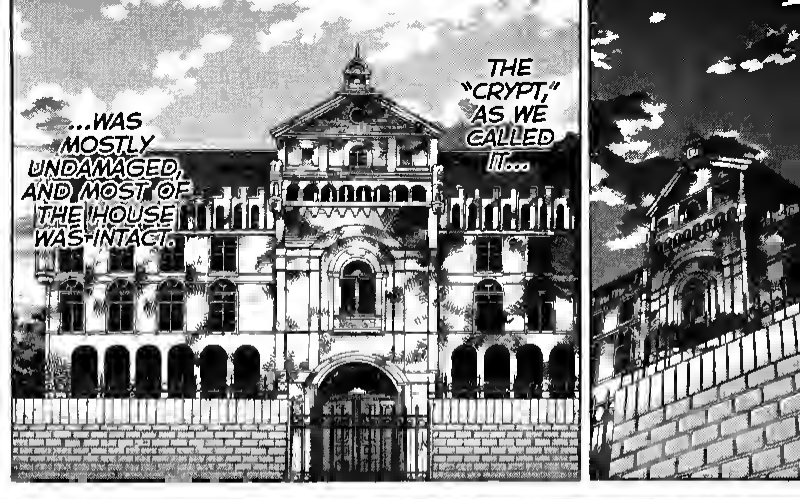
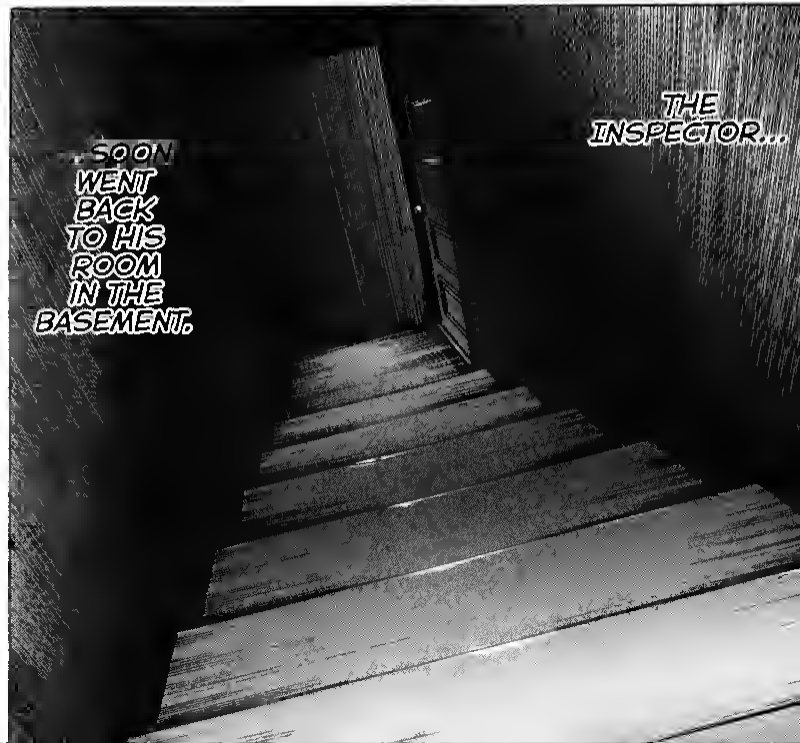
HEH...
WELL, OFFICER OTAGURO... COULD YOU HELP ME, INSTEAD OF JUST STANDING THERE?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
YES, SIR! I'M SORRY ...


...WAS MOSTLY UNDAMAGED, AND MOST OF THE HOUSE WAS INTACT.
THE "CRYPT," AS WE CALLED IT...


THE INSPECTOR...
...SO ON WENT BACK TO HIS ROOM IN THE BASEMENT.

I TOOK A MUCH-NEEDED VACATION TO PREPARE FOR MY WEDDING...
FORTUNATELY I ONLY SUFFERED FROM SOME SMOKE INHALATION. NO BURNS.
SO, I WAS RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL THE NEXT DAY.
...TO SAVE MY LIFE.
BUT SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED. THE INSPECTOR HAD LEFT HIS ISOLATION...
...AND IT WAS AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED.

ガチャ…
KNOCK-
KNOCK-
HOW ARE YOU FEELING, NAOMI?
……

YOUR DOCTOR, THE OFFICERS... EVERYONE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
I HEARD THAT YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN A WORD SINCE YOU WOKE UP.
I FIGURED YOU ESPECIALLY WOULDN'T WANT TO TALK TO ME, BUT...
...WHAT IS IT...?
...I HAVE SOMETHING I REALLY WANTED TO KNOW.
...WHY DID YOU DO IT?
INSPECTOR HIMURO THINKS THAT YOU WANTED REVENGE FOR YOUR SISTER, BUT...
...I DON'T THINK THAT'S IT.

I THINK...
...YOU ARE IN LOVE WITH THE INSPECTOR, AND HAVE BEEN FOR A LONG TIME.
AM I RIGHT?
...
I WON'T.
...
IT WAS NEVER REVENGE NAOMI WAS AFTER.
YOU KNOW ABOUT THE KID-NAPPING A YEAR AGO, DON'T YOU?
YES... HANAE TOLD ME.
...YES. BUT PLEASE... YOU MUST NEVER TELL HIM...ALL RIGHT?

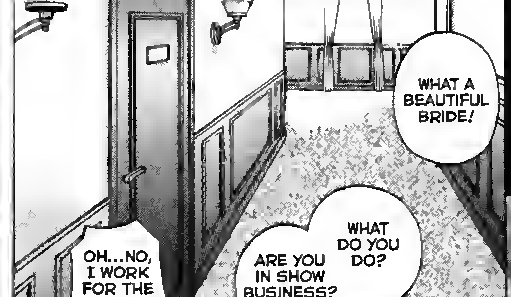
BUT WHEN I REALIZED THAT SNAIL KIDNAPPED ME BECAUSE HE MISTOOK ME AS KOZABURO'S GIRLFRIEND...
SO SCARED THAT I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT WAS REALLY HAPPENING...
I WAS SO SCARED...
...I BELIEVED THAT KOZABURO WOULD COME TO RESCUE ME.
SHE STOOD IN FRONT OF THE KIDNAPPER FEARLESSLY, AS IF SHE WAS SAYING "IT'S ME KOZABURO LOVES."
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, NAOMI?!
BUT...IT WAS MY SISTER WHO CAME.
YUKA !!
キィィ

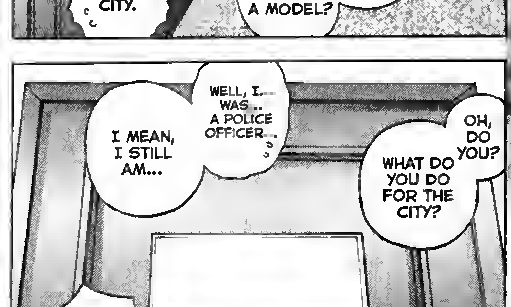
MY SISTER DIED IN HIS ARMS...
MMMGGH!!
YUKA!!
OOOOOH!!
AND YET ALL I COULD THINK...

NAOMI-SAN...
I'VE LOVED HIM...
...FOR SUCH A LONG TIME...
...AS MY SISTER DIED...IS THAT IF IT HAD BEEN ME...
...I WOULD HAVE BEEN... SATISFIED.
I DECIDED TO GIVE UP...
I BECAME A TEACHER AND IMMERSED MYSELF IN MY WORK...
BUT... ONCE I HEARD HIS VOICE AGAIN, THAT WAS IT.
I WANTED TO SEE HIM...
I HAD TO SEE HIM.
WHEN I HEARD THAT HE CLOSED HIMSELF OFF IN THE BASEMENT AFTER THE INCIDENT...
...IT SHOCKED ME...HURT ME MORE THAN MY SISTER'S DEATH.
I THOUGHT THAT HE'D NEVER LOOK AT ME AGAIN.
...

KOZABURO HIMURO'S GIRLFRIEND, WHO WAS KILLED BY SNAIL...
...JUST LIKE MY SISTER, I'D DIE IN HIS ARMS.
THAT...
THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN FITTING.
WHAT?
...I ...
IF HE CAME OUT OF HIS BASEMENT TO SAVE ME...
...I WAS GOING TO KILL MYSELF.

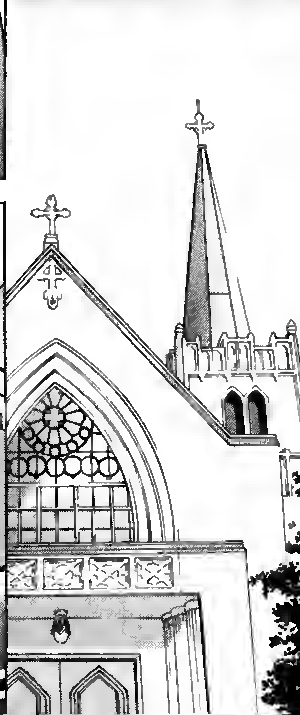
...THAT IT WAS TO RESCUE YOU.
I HEAR HE DID FINALLY COME OUT.
AN OFFICER TOLD ME...
.....
...PLEASE, STAY BY HIS SIDE.
...THAT'S MY NO...
...THAT WOULD BE MY SISTER'S WISH.


WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BRIDE!
WHAT DO YOU DO?
ARE YOU IN SHOW BUSINESS? A MODEL?
OH...NO, I WORK FOR THE CITY.

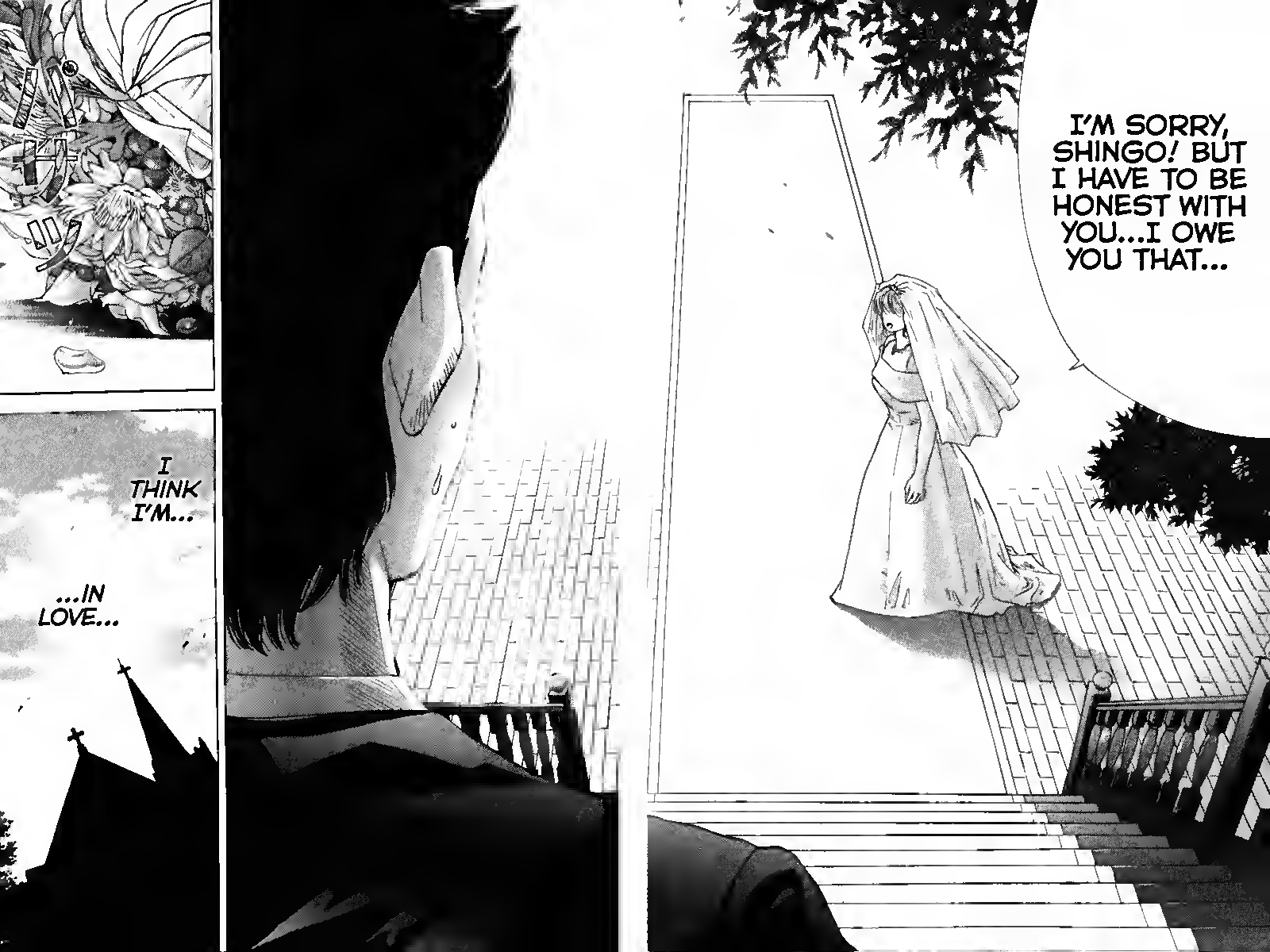

WELL, I... WAS... A POLICE OFFICER...
I MEAN, I STILL AM...
OH, DO YOU?
WHAT DO YOU DO FOR THE CITY?
WHAT? YOU ARE?

RIGHT... STILL...
THAT'S ODD.
THE GROOM TOLD ME THAT YOU'RE A HOMEMAKER.
OH... WELL...

10 DAYS LATER, AT THE WEDDING CHAPEL.

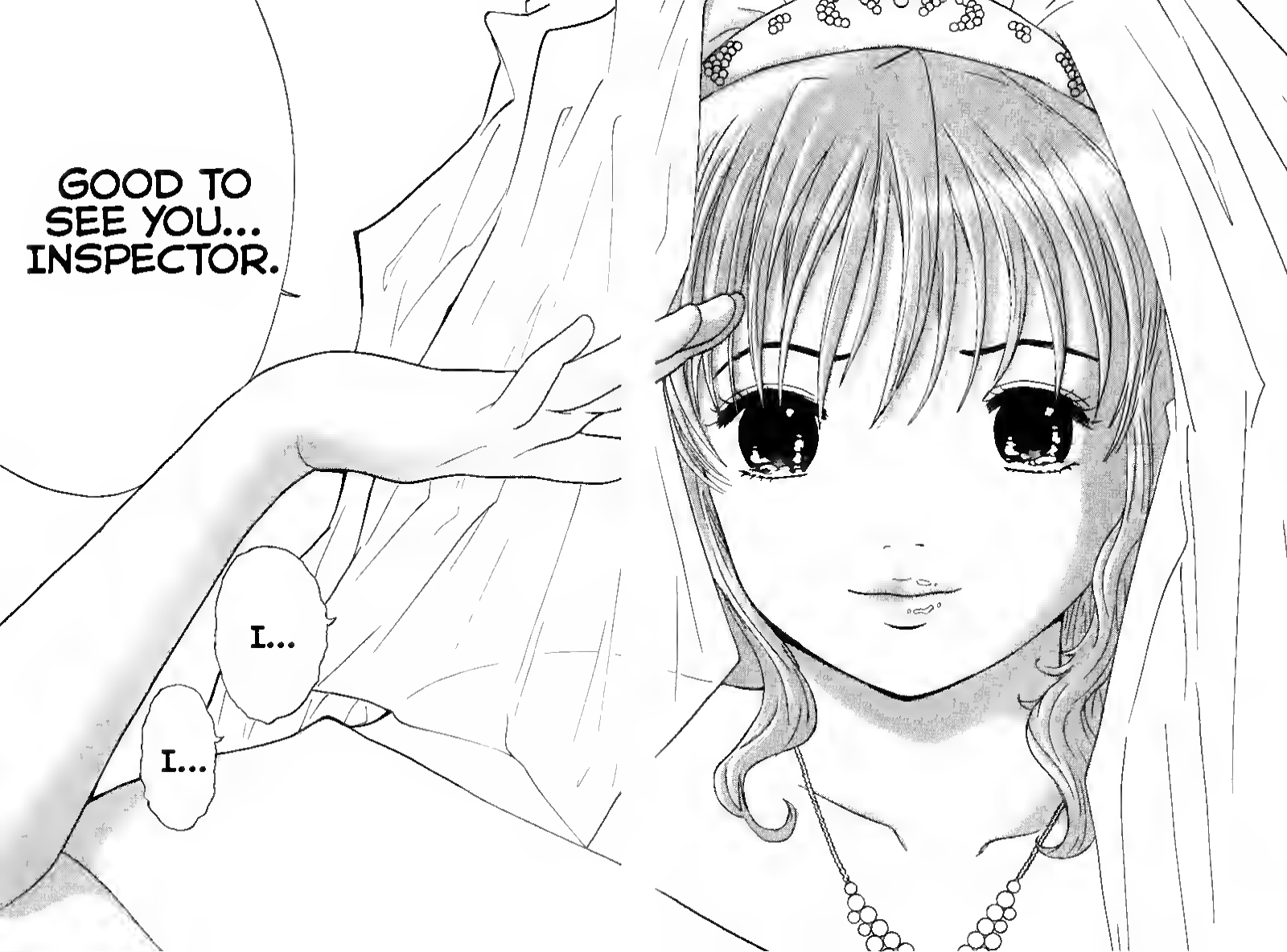


BREEEP
OH...!
ガチャ?!
BIP
H-HELLO? AYAKI, HERE!
HEY!
H-
DON'T LEAVE THE CHAIR YET!
YOUR MAKE-UP ISN'T DONE ...
WE HAVE A MURDER CASE. YOUR VACATION IS OVER. COME TO ANNEX A IMMEDIATELY.
KU-KURUMI! WH-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
NO... NOT AGAIN !!


I'M SORRY, SHINGO! BUT I HAVE TO BE HONEST WITH YOU...I OWE YOU THAT...
I THINK I'M...
...IN LOVE...

EXCUSE ME, SIR! I'M SORRY I'M LATE!
...WITH MY JOB ...!!

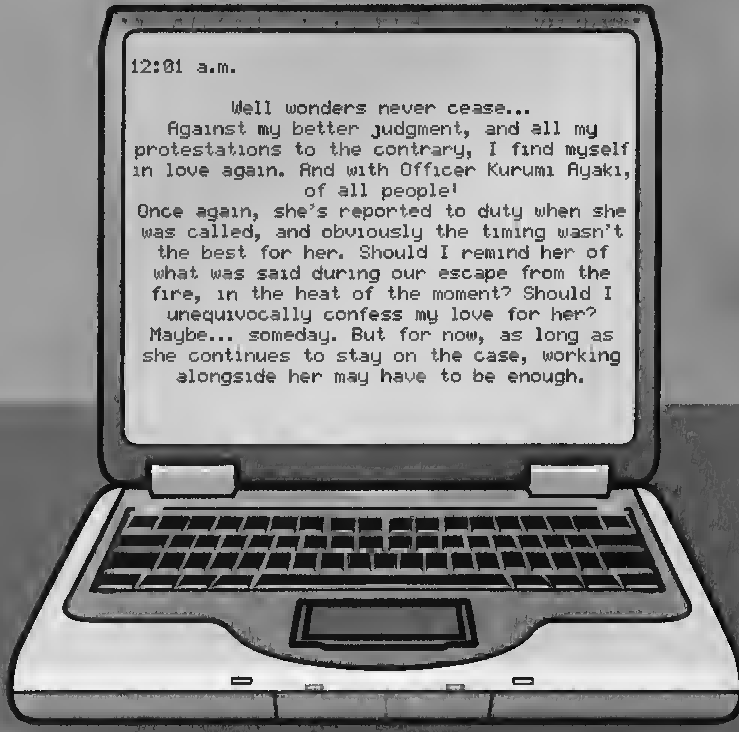
OFFICER...
THAT'S A UNIQUE OUTFIT.


GOOD TO SEE YOU... INSPECTOR.
I...
I...

YES, WHAT IS IT?
vodafone
UM...
OH...
NOTHING... INSPECTOR HIMURO. LET'S GET TO WORK.

file.100 END

FROM THE JOURNALS OF Kozaburo Himuro:


12:01 a.m.
Well wonders never cease...
Against my better judgment, and all my protestations to the contrary, I find myself in love again. And with Officer Kurumi Ayaki, of all people!
Once again, she's reported to duty when she was called, and obviously the timing wasn't the best for her. Should I remind her of what was said during our escape from the fire, in the heat of the moment? Should I unequivocally confess my love for her?
Maybe... someday. But for now, as long as she continues to stay on the case, working alongside her may have to be enough.

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THE END

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INSPECTOR KOZABURO HIMURO

Kozaburo Himuro is the reclusive head of Special Unit A (aka the Crypt). From within his secluded headquarters, Himuro uses his genius intellect and understanding of the criminal mind to help solve the most heinous and bizarre cases. Due to mysterious events in his past, he is incapable of leaving the Crypt to face the world and his own personal demons.

DETECTIVE KURUMI AYAKI

As Inspector Himuro's eyes and ears outside the Crypt, Kurumi Ayaki helps investigate the gruesome crimes assigned to Special Unit A. Although completely out of her element, Ayaki's heart and determination help compensate for her lack of practical experience. It is Ayaki's emotional tenacity combined with Himuro's cold logic that may be the team's greatest asset.

Previously in REMOTE...

Kurumi Ayaki's stint with the Metropolitan Police Department's Special Unit A has proven to be anything but dull. Working directly under the reclusive Inspector Himuro Kozaburo, Ayaki aids him in his efforts to solve the city's most heinous crimes. From killer clowns to mad bombers to lethal stalkers, no crime is too bizarre, no criminal too crafty. Recently Kurumi has become a competent detective in her own right. More and more she is relying on her instincts and reflexes when the situations grow dire. However, her conflicting emotions over her dedication to her job and her commitment to her fiancé, Shingo, may be reaching an impasse. Just as Kurumi is about to tender her resignation, a face from the past makes an unexpected reappearance...

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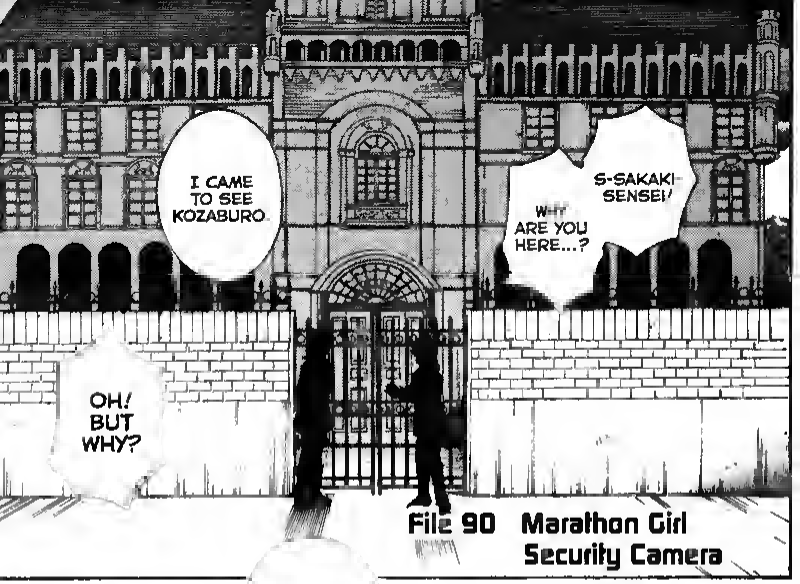
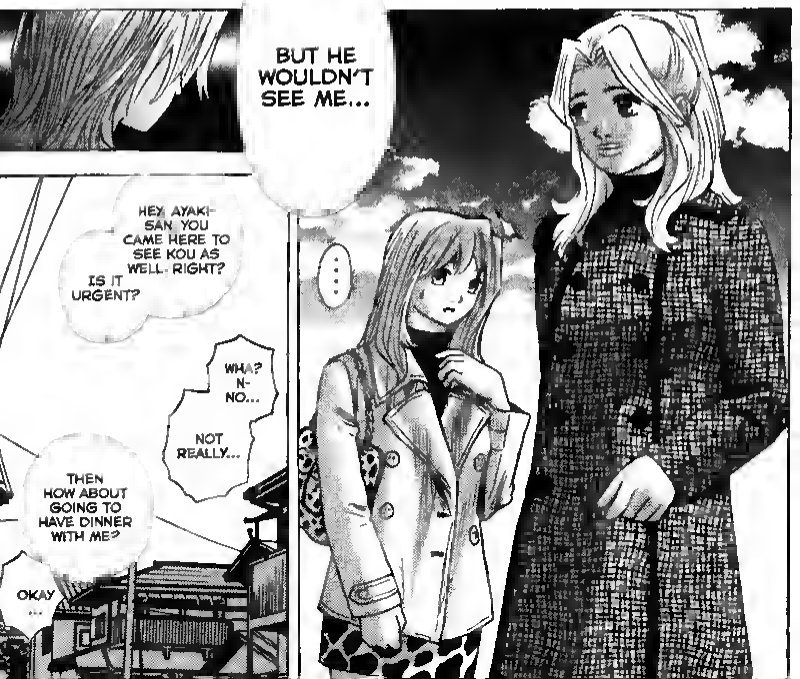


File 90 Marathon Girl Security Camera


BUT HE WOULDN'T SEE ME...
HEY, AYAKI-SAN. YOU CAME HERE TO SEE KOU AS WELL, RIGHT? IS IT URGENT?
WHA? N-NO...
NOT REALLY...
THEN HOW ABOUT GOING TO HAVE DINNER WITH ME?
OKAY...

IT'S ON ME...
SOUND GOOD!
Resignation
Resignation

SAKAKI-
SAN!
WAIT UP!

AND SO HE TOLD ME TO WIPE THE MAKE-UP OFF...
OFF THE DEAD CLOWN!
CREEPY! CLOWNS ARE SCARY...
PAZZO

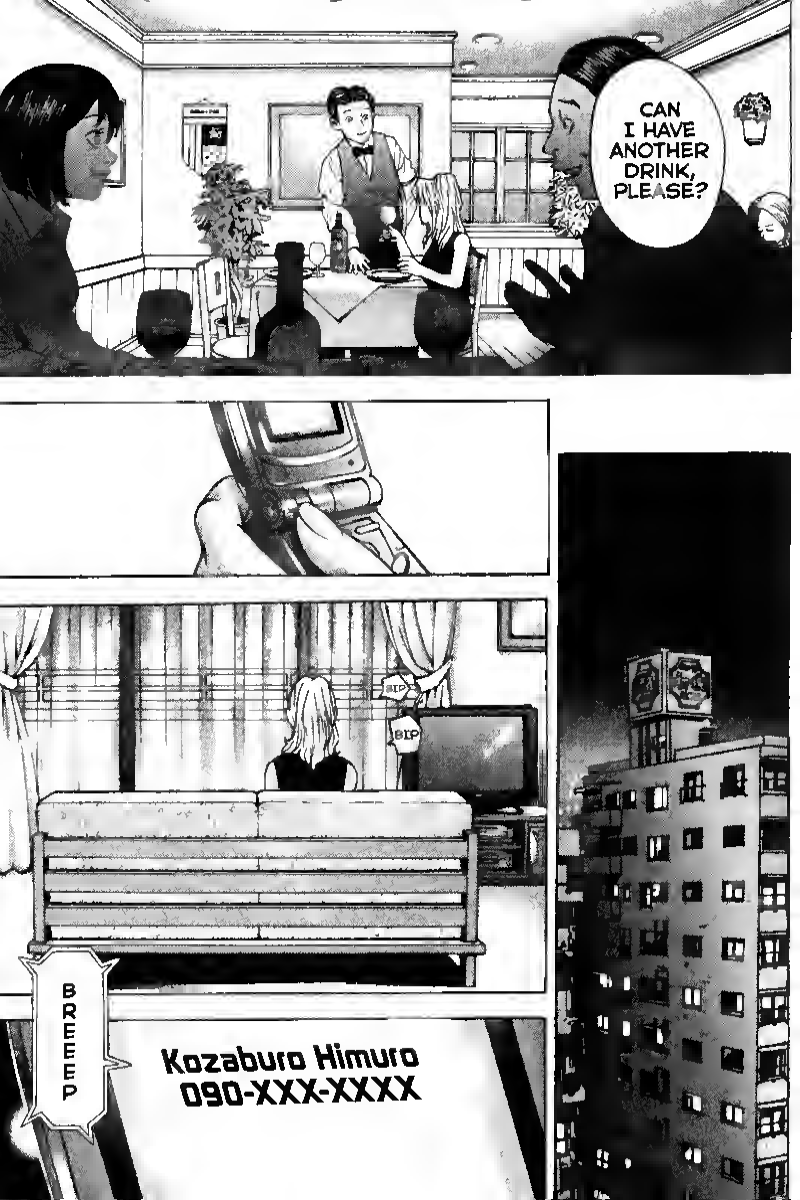
...BUT IT WAS CRUEL TO TELL YOU TO LEAVE THE BOY WHO WAS HIT BY THE CAR.
NOT ONLY THAT...
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE KOU.
SURE IT DOES!
HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE I MET HIM. WHY I DIDN'T QUIT ON THE SPOT...
YOU'RE TELLING ME!
TOUCHING A DEAD BODY? BAD ENOUGH! BUT A DEAD, CREEPY CLOWN...HOW COULD HE ASK SUCH A THING?!

HE DID GIVE ME A CALL TELLING ME THAT THE BOY WAS ALL RIGHT...
...AND HE DID ARRANGE TO ARREST THE DRIVER AFTER ALL, SO...
I SEE...
WELL, I...
BUT YOU DIDN'T, DID YOU?
I CAN'T!
...BUT HE COMFORTED ME AND TOLD ME I WASN'T RESPONSIBLE.
THE WAITER HAD BEEN DEAD LONG BEFORE HE FELL OFF THE BUILDING.
THAT WAS WHY THE BODY FELT COLD...
AND WHEN I WAS THINKING "MAYBE IT WAS MY FAULT THAT THE WAITER WAS PUSHED OFF THE BUILDING..."
I WAS REALLY UPSET...
I DON'T THINK HE MEANT TO CONSOLE YOU.
AFTER HE TRIED TO CONSOLE ME, I FIGURED I'D TOUGH IT OUT A LITTLE BIT LONGER...
WHAT?
....

ANY POLICE OFFICER WOULD DO THAT.
MAKING SURE THE BOY WAS OKAY AND ARRESTING THE DRIVER...
I DON'T THINK HE DID IT JUST FOR YOU, YOU KNOW?
NO, HE HASN'T CHANGED... HE WAS ALWAYS A LITTLE BIT COLD.
B-BUT HE TOLD ME THE WAITER HAD BEEN DEAD ALREADY...
...BECAUSE I WAS SO UPSET...
BUT HE'S SWEET TO CHILDREN AND ANIMALS.
HE TOLD YOU TO LOOK AROUND AND LEAVE HIM TO SOMEONE ELSE, RIGHT? I THINK THAT WAS THE RIGHT DECISION.
HE DIDN'T REALLY TELL YOU TO LEAVE HIM.
CHILDREN?! HE TOLD ME TO LEAVE THE INJURED BOY!
YOU'RE BEING TOO EMOTIONAL. I THINK THAT'S JUST PART OF THE CASE REPORT, DON'T YOU?

IT'S JUST LIKE KOU...
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY THAT IT DIDN'T SOUND LIKE HIM?
WHAT? STOP PULLING MY LEG
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT INSPECTOR HIMURO!
YOU'VE SOME NERVE, LECTURING ME!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S EXCITED OVER NOTHING!
YOU SAY ONE THING, AND THEN THE OPPOSITE! WHICH IS IT KURUMI?
YOU HAVE A FIANCÉ, RIGHT?
DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE SPENDING A LITTLE TOO MUCH TIME THINKING ABOUT THE INSPECTOR WHEN YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED SOON??
WH-WHAT?!
NOT THAT IT'S ANY OF YOUR DAMN BUSINESS...
...BUT THE INSPECTOR IS MY BOSS... NOTHING MORE!
I HAVE SHINGO...WHY WOULD I BE INTERESTED IN A COLD FISH LIKE HIMURO?

I MUST HAVE HIT A NERVE...
I-I'M NOT... NOT AT ALL...
カチン
THEN WHY ARE YOU SO EXCITED?
SLAM
DING DING
I DON'T HAVE TO SIT AND LISTEN TO THIS!
GOOD EVENING, NAOMI!
SIGH...
I DON'T WANT YOUR MONEY I SAID IT'S ON ME.
NO THANK YOU! I HAVE A JOB, I'LL PAY MY OWN WAY!


CAN I HAVE ANOTHER DRINK, PLEASE?
BIP
BIP
BREEEP
Kozaburo Himuro
090-XXX-XXXX

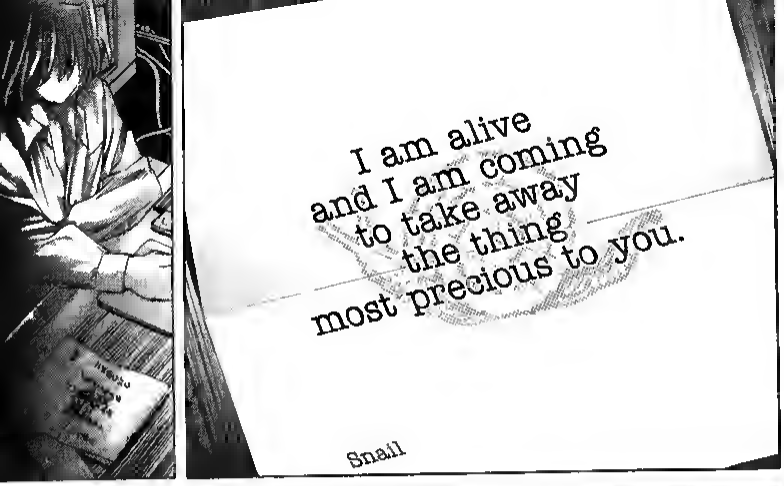
CLICK...
...SIGH.

BREEEP
BREEP
Kozaburo Himuro
BREEP
1
チン
チン
ガアアア

HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
HEY...
STOP!
NO!
NOOOO!
SOME-BODY...!
WH-WHAT? WHY DID...

!!

SOME-
BODY,
HELP!
KOZABURO!!

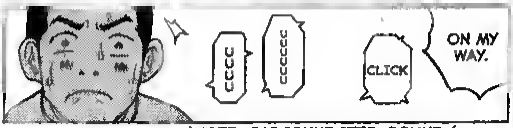

I am alive
and I am coming
to take away
the thing
most precious to you.
Snail

Snail

...HE'S STILL ALIVE!!
SO, AFTER THIS TIME...

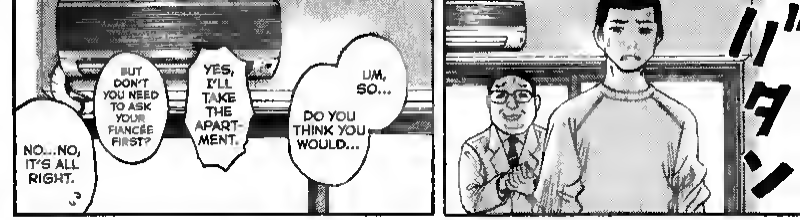
SEE? IT STILL LOOKS NEW, DOESN'T IT, KURUMI?
IT'S NOT VERY BIG, BUT BIG ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF US TO COOK TOGETHER.
UH-HUH.
THIS IS THE DINING ROOM AND KITCHEN.
YEAH, IT REALLY DOES.
BUT SHINGO SAYS YOU'RE GOING TO BE A HOME-MAKER, SO THE TRAIN STATION SHOULDN'T BE VERY NECESSARY, I SUPPOSE...
IT'S A BIT OF A WALK TO THE TRAIN STATION, BUT THERE'S A SUPERMARKET NEARBY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE VIEW?
OH, IT'S GREAT!
LOOK AT THAT SKYLINE!
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KURUMI? I THINK THIS APARTMENT IS PERFECT FOR OUR NEW HOME...
I... SUP-POSE.

UM, SHINGO... DO YOU STILL WANT ME TO QUIT MY JOB?
HUH? OH, YEAH... IT'S GREAT...
!!
BREEP
H... HELLO?
OH, INSPECTOR HIMURO!
AYAKI SPEAKING.
GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU!
I WANT YOU TO STAY HOME, AND BESIDES, YOUR JOB IS TOO DANGEROUS!
HUH? WELL, I...
I JUST... I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO YOU, YOU KNOW?
I-I KNOW, BUT...
KURUMI... I DON'T THINK I COULD TAKE LOSING YOU...
BREEP



:NOTE: DISCONNECTED SOUND.:

SHINGO
I REALLY AM SORRY...


NO...NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT.
BUT DON'T YOU NEED TO ASK YOUR FIANCÉE FIRST?
YES, I'LL TAKE THE APART-MENT.
UM, SO...
DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD...
バタン

WE'RE HAVING OUR WEDDING VERY SOON.

OH, I SEE. LET'S GO BACK TO THE OFFICE AND FINISH OUR PAPERWORK THEN...
.....

file.90 END

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METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
UNSOLVED CASE REPORT

GENERAL INFORMATION

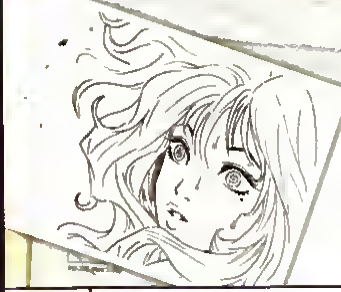
Case file number	Previous officer assigned	Officer W. Pyler
HEB-011	Current officer assigned	Officer K. Ayaki

Investigation status

Officer Ayaki reporting.

Naomi Sakaki—the teacher I met in that school bombing case—has been kidnapped. Some guy named Snail left a ransom note: one billion yen worth of diamonds if I ever want to see Naomi again. What's worse, he's got a big grudge against Himuro for some reason. And now Snail has me running all over town before we make the trade—if I'm not where he needs me to be, no one's going to see Naomi again.

But I'm on to this guy, and getting closer—the only thing is, you're never going to guess where the trail finally leads... And there's no way in hell I can solve this one on my own. If I ever needed Himuro, now's the time.



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MYSTERY

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10:/
STORY_BY:SEIMARU_AMAGI
ART_BY:TETSUYA_KOSHIBA
EXPLICIT CONTENT
PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT

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?
...UH... INSPECTOR?
File 91 Marathon Girl Confusion
REPORTING FOR DUTY, MON CAPITAN!
...ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU, INSPECTOR...?
I CAME AS FAST AS I...
ゴォォォ
ARE YOU ILL?
YOU DON'T LOOK WELL...
I'M FINE.. LISTEN.
WE HAVE A CASE.
SSH.
BOB ...
HE'S A BIT UPSET RIGHT NOW.

THIS IS THE MESSAGE FROM THE KIDNAPPER. I RECEIVED IT AT HOME THIS AFTERNOON.
IT'S A... KIDNAPPING.
YES, THIS IS HIMURO
LATE LAST NIGHT, A WOMAN WAS KIDNAPPED FROM HER APARTMENT BUILDING IN TOKYO.
KIDNAPPING?
HEE HEE HEE... DO YOU REMEMBER ME, INSPECTOR HIMURO?
DO YOU REMEMBER THE MAN WHO TOOK THAT WHICH WAS MOST PRECIOUS TO YOU?
Playing
WH-WHAT'S THIS? IS THIS--
BE QUIET AND LISTEN!

I'M ALIVE AND COMING BACK TO ONCE MORE TAKE WHAT IS MOST PRECIOUS TO YOU.
I am alive and I am coming to take away the thing most precious to you.
SNAIL
OH, I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE, INSPECTOR... BACK FROM HELL, YOU SEE?
SNAIL IS DEAD. WHO THE HELL IS THIS?
TAKE AWAY THE THING MOST PRECIOUS?
W-WAIT! WHAT DID YOU DO TO NAOMI ...?
CLICK
CCCCCC
CCCCCC
[NOTE: DISCONNECTED SOUND]
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?!
W... WAIT!
GO CHECK NAOMI SAKAKI'S APARTMENT. TALK TO YOU SOON.
DO YOU MEAN THE VICTIM IS...?

NAOMI SAKAKI!
SHE SAID THAT SHE CAME HERE TO SEE YOU BUT COULDN'T, AND...
...SHE ASKED ME TO GO HAVE DINNER WITH HER...
I RAN INTO HER OUT FRONT...
WHY?
N-NO WAY! NAOMI-SAN WAS KIDNAP-PED...?
I...I JUST HAD DINNER WITH HER LAST NIGHT!
WITH NAOMI? YOU SAW HER YESTER-DAY...?
I JUST SAW HER!
ARE YOU SURE THIS ISN'T A [illegible]K?
SOME SICK JOKE?

HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WH-WHAT? WHY DID...
I WISH IT WAS. LOOK.
STOP!
NO!
NAOMI-SAN!!
NOOOO!
SOME-BODY HELP!
SOME-BODY!

HELP!
KOZABURO!

キィィィ
KOZABURO!
HELP!

YUKA!!
UM, INSPEC-TOR?
IS THIS...
I... I ASKED BOB TO GET THIS.
THIS IS A TAPE FROM THE SECURITY CAMERA FROM NAOMI'S APARTMENT.
THEN SHE'S REALLY
RIGHT... IT'S OBVIOUS THAT SHE WAS KIDNAP-PED BY SOMEONE...

I...I'VE NEVER SEEN THE INSPECTOR LIKE THIS...
WHAT IS HE NOT TELLING ME?
THIS IS NOT JUST A THREAT.
IT'S NOT...
SHIT!
AYAKI...
YES?
...I WANT YOU TO WAIT UPSTAIRS, OKAY?
UNTIL "SNAIL" CALLS AGAIN...
BREEEP

...
HERE, KURUMI
...
THANKS
...
I TRUST BY NOW YOU'VE SEEN THE TAPE, INSPECTOR?
HELLO ...?
IT'S SNAIL!
SHE'S SAFE... FOR THE MOMENT.
LET ME SPEAK TO HER.
AS YOU WISH.
WHERE'S NAOMI? IS SHE SAFE?
OF COURSE YOU HAVE... YOU'RE VERY THOROUGH, AFTER ALL.

KOZABURO? IT'S ME! PLEASE HELP... PLEASE!
NAOMI ...!
NAOMI! WHERE ARE YOU?! DESCRIBE YOUR SURROUNDINGS!
OOPS... TIME'S UP.
CUT TO THE CHASE, EH, HIMURO? I WANT DIAMONDS. BIGGER THAN FIVE KARATS SO THEY'RE EASIER TO CASH...
WHAT DO YOU WANT? TELL ME...
...AND I WANT ONE BILLION YEN'S WORTH.
!!
THE DEADLINE IS 11:00 A.M. TOMORROW MORNING...

プー
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プー
プー
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE...
YOU'RE A RESOURCEFUL LAD, HIMURO. YOU'LL FIND A WAY.
AFTER ALL, IF YOU FAIL...WELL... LET'S JUST SAY YOU'LL NEVER FIND ALL OF NAOMI'S PIECES.
EVEN IF I HAD IT, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO GET TOGETHER BY TOMORROW MORNING!
HOW... HOW THE HELL DO I COME UP WITH THAT MUCH MONEY?
TELEPHONE
YOU SON OF A BITCH! YOU...

...NAOMI IS IN DANGER... BECAUSE OF ME.
BECAUSE OF YOU...?
I HAVE TO HELP HER...
IT'S MY FAULT!
NOOOOOOOO!!
YOU'LL THINK OF SOMETHING... YOU JUST HAVE TO KEEP YOUR HEAD AND THINK!
I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT!
PLEASE, CALM DOWN!
INSPECTOR! S-STOP!
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU!

WHAAT?!
ARE YOU CRAZY?! THAT'S A CRIME...!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
INSPECTOR! IF YOU DO THIS—
—THAT'S THE END OF YOUR CAREER! YOU'LL GO TO JAIL!
I DON'T CARE! WHAT CHOICE DO I HAVE?!
I CAN'T LET NAOMI DIE BECAUSE OF ME!
...AND GET ONE BILLION YEN!!

カタカタカタ
I'M GONNA HACK INTO THE FINANCIAL NETWORK!
I'LL BYPASS THE FIREWALL AND ACCESS THE CREDIT SYSTEM...
カタ
WHA-- WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO, KOU?!

KU-RUMI...
STAY CALM, AYAKI...
IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE THE AMOUNT OF TIME IT WOULD TAKE FOR THE SUPER-INTENDENT-GENERAL TO ACT...
WE DON'T KNOW THAT! ANY-WAY...
AYAKI! WAIT...
...HAVE TO TRY!
THAT PRESIDENT WHAT'S-HIS-NAME COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED AND THAT COULD HAVE STARTED A WAR!

IT DOESN'T MATTER! ONE BILLION YEN IS NOTHING...
...THIS IS LIFE OR DEATH!
THEY OWE YOU INSPECTOR! DON'T YOU KNOW HOW MANY LIVES WERE SAVED BECAUSE OF YOU?!
THE CLOWN CASE AND THE SCHOOL BOMBING...IF YOU WEREN'T INVOLVED, ALL THOSE PEOPLE WOULD BE DEAD!
I'M GOING TO CALL THE SUPER-INTENDENT-GENERAL.
WHAT KIND OF A STUPID IDEA IS THAT...?!

THAT HOPELESS EMPLOYEE OF YOURS SURE CALMED YOU DOWN THOUGH, EH?
SHE'S HOPE-LESS...
...
...WHEN I WATCHED [illegible] WALK AWAY...
...DID I GET THE FEELING EVERYTHING IS GOING TO TURN OUT FINE?
HER PLAN ISN'T GOING TO WORK.
BUT THEN WHY...

file.91 END

OH MY GOD!
WHAT AN ANGLE TO SHOOT!
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File 92 Marathon Girl Preparation Complete
ONE B-BILLION ...?!
PLEASE!
BUT INSPECTOR SAYS...
PLEASE! ASK THE SUPER-INTENDENT-GENERAL FOR ME!
...WE JUST NEED TO BORROW IT!
THAT'S RIGHT! UNTIL INSPECTOR HIMURO MAKES THE ARREST...
ARREST WHO...?
NAOMI AND I ARE JUST FRIENDS.
...I WAS GOING OUT WITH HER SISTER, NOT NAOMI.
THE KIDNAP-PER!
THE VICTIM IS NAOMI SAKAKI, INSPECTOR HIMURO'S EX-GIRL-FRIEND...
I MEAN, THAT'S WHAT SHE CLAIMS...
W-WAIT A MINUTE!
THERE'S BEEN A KIDNAPP-ING?!

I CAN'T DO THAT.
WHAT ?

EVEN IF I COULD GET THE AMOUNT YOU'RE ASKING...
...THERE'S NO WAY I COULD GET THAT AMOUNT IN TIME.

AND EVEN IF I COULD GET THAT MONEY... TAXPAYER MONEY, MIND YOU...
...HOW MANY KIDNAPPERS WILL GET THE IDEA TO TRY THE SAME THING?
BUT YOU HAVE TO TRY!

I PROMISE YOU WE'LL DO OUR BEST AND INVESTIGATE.
I DIDN'T SAY THAT...
SO WHAT ARE YOU TELLING ME? TO GIVE UP? TO LET NAOMI DIE?
THAT'S ALL WE CAN DO, AYAKI

PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO HELP...
PLEASE, ASK THE SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL AND SEE IF INSPECTOR CAN BORROW THE RANSOM!
HE'LL SOLVE THE CASE AND YOU'LL GET IT ALL BACK!
YOU KNOW HE WILL!

THE KIDNAPPER IS ASKING INSPECTOR HIMURO TO BRING ONE BILLION YEN WORTH OF DIAMONDS!
IF HE DOESN'T, NAOMI-SAN WILL BE KILLED!

HIMURO HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT ANY CRIME HE HAS KNOWLEDGE OF/ THIS IS JUST LIKE HIM/
HE'S THE ONE WHO RECEIVED THE THREATENING CALL...
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ...!
THIS TIME I'M GOING STRAIGHT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL, AND...
DOES HE THINK HE CAN DO WHATEVE R HE WANTS?/
I'VE HAD ENOUGH !

LISTEN TO ME! PLEASE !

!

SEN-PAI...
KURUMI!
YES, SIR!
YOU GUYS SET UP AN INVESTIGATION ROOM AND WAIT FOR MY ORDERS.
I'M GOING TO CONTACT INSPECTOR HIMURO RIGHT AWAY...
...AND ASK THE CHIEF FOR HIS PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE WITH UNIT A.
SO DO I...
HACHI-NOSHE!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
TO GET ONE BILLION YEN?
NOT ON YOUR SALARY!
BUT I WANT TO HELP HER!
WHAT?
LISTEN...
GOT IT? NOW GO CALL HIM.
YES, SIR!

I OWE INSPECTOR HIMURO... A LOT.
NOW, HURRY.
GO!
YES, SIR!
...HEH.
YO... KURUMI!

...SHINGO.
NOT LIKE HIMURO... HE'S ALWAYS UPSETTING YOU, ISN'T HE?
HAVE I EVER LIED TO YOU?
... NO.
HE UPSETS YOU AND MAKES YOU CRY...ALL THE TIME.
WHAT ...?
HE SENDS YOU ALONE TO DANGEROUS CRIME SCENES ...
...PUTS YOU IN DANGEROUS SITUATIONS.
...I SEE. THAT'S TERRIBLE...
JUST... DON'T WRITE ABOUT THIS, OKAY, SHINGO?
OF COURSE NOT. I'D NEVER DO SOMETHING TO UPSET YOU
NEVER.

...
HE EVEN MADE YOU DETONATE A BOMB.
YOU'RE A REGULAR GIRL, FOR GOD'S SAKE.
YOU'RE THE GIRL WHO'LL BECOME MY WIFE AND MAKE DINNER, WE'LL GO SHOPPING TOGETHER...
...AND WHEN WE HAVE A CHILD, WE'LL COME TO A PLAYGROUND LIKE THIS ONE...
...
YOU'RE A NORMAL GIRL WHO SHOULDN'T BE INVOLVED WITH MURDERING CLOWNS AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE.
RIGHT, KURUMI?
... RIGHT.
THEN YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT HIMURO'S LIFE.
WHAT ?
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH ALL HIS EMOTIONAL BAGGAGE.
THAT'S WHAT I THINK.
BUT SHINGO ...
IS THAT REALLY IT?
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...?
SOMEONE WAS KIDNAPPED, YOU KNOW? IF I QUIT NOW, SHE MIGHT BE KILLED...

ARE YOU... ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH HIMURO? IS THAT WHAT'S GOING ON?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
...
OF COURSE! SORRY... BAD JOKE.
HEH. JOKE ...
C-COME ON! THAT WASN'T FUNNY...
I GUESS NOT
I'M SORRY!
BREEEP

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!
HELLO ...?
...OH, I UNDER-STAND.

I'M SORRY, INSPECTOR! YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT THE SUPER-INTENDANT-GENERAL.
OH, MY GOD! ARE THESE ALL REALLY DIAMONDS ?!
NO, YOU WERE RIGHT.
HUH ?
HERE, KURU-MI! TAKE A LOOK
DID YOU DO IT, BOB? DID YOU ROB A JEWELRY SHOP?!
HA HA HA! NO WAY.
THEN HOW DID YOU...?

KURUMI? IT'S ME, SHINICHI FUDO.
.....?
SHINICHI-SAN!
S-SO, YOU GOT THESE DIAMONDS ?
YEAH. THE OFFICERS FROM KAN-NANA POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLED AND TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR SITUATION.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, HUH?
DO YOU MEAN... OFFICER CHIKUMA-GAWA?
KAN-NANA POLICE DEPART-MENT...

THAT'S RIGHT. CHIKUMA-GAWA AND HACHINOHE.
YOU CAN KEEP THE DIAMONDS FOR A WHILE. THIS IS MY CHANCE TO REPAY MY DEBT
I'VE DONE ALL I CAN. THE REST IS UP TO YOU.
ALL? THESE DIAMONDS ARE WORTH ONE BILLION YEN! HOW DID YOU GET SUCH...
TH-THOSE GUYS...
I CONTACTED THE JEWELRY IMPORTING COMPANIES AND SHOPS OF FUDO GROUP. I HOPE I MADE YOU HAPPY.
... YEAH.
THANK YOU, SHINICHI
YES, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT. INSPECTOR HIMURO IS A GENIUS. I'M SURE HE'LL CATCH THE KIDNAPPER, AND I'LL DO MY BEST, TOO...

ALL WE CAN DO IS WAIT FOR THE KIDNAPPER TO REACT. ...YOU CAN GO HOME AND REST NOW.
NOW...
IN-SPEC-TOR...
IF ANYTHING COMES UP, I'LL CALL YOU IMMEDIATE-LY.
YES, SIR.
EXCUSE ME, THEN...
...YES?
...A...
AYAKI...
KOU...

THANK YOU.
...SURE... GOOD NIGHT, INSPECTOR.

...INSPECTOR...
YOU SCARED ME...
OH... HANAE.
...KURUMI.

BUT HE USED TO...
...BEFORE HE CLOSED HIMSELF OFF, THAT IS.
MASTER KOZABURO HARDLY EVER TELLS ME ABOUT HIS INVESTIGATIONS.
GOOD.
OF COURSE I WON'T.
THIS IS AN OFFICIAL CASE NOW...
IT'S OKAY...JUST DON'T SAY ANYTHING, OKAY?
THANK YOU FOR TELLING ME ABOUT NAOMI.
DO YOU MEAN THE SLUG-LIKE CREATURE WITH A SHELL...?
NO... I MEAN THE KIDNAPPER.
THE GUY WHO KIDNAPPED NAOMI CALLED HIMSELF SNAIL.
...
YES?
UM... HANAE ?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE "SNAIL" IS?
ピヨ〃
...THAT CAN'T BE TRUE.
"SNAIL" IS DEAD...

キィィ…

DEAD?
YES.

KURUMI…
YES?

PLEASE... LOOK AFTER MASTER KOZABURO.
...SURE.
I'LL DO ANY-THING I CAN.

ZIIIIP
CRACK

GOOD MORNING, INSPECTOR HIMURO.
I TRUST YOU HAVE MY DIAMONDS?
YES, I DO.
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT. NOW, PUT THE DIAMONDS IN A BACK-PACK.
I NEED TO KNOW SHE'S SAFE, OR NO DEAL!
LET ME HEAR NAOMI'S VOICE FIRST!
...AND HAVE SOMEONE BRING IT TO FOLLOWING LOCATION...
OF COURSE. HERE SHE IS...
K-KOZABURO? IS IT YOU?
YES, IT'S ME. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

PLEASE... HELP! HELP ME, KOZABURO!!
THIS IS AYAKI. I'M READY, INSPECTOR.

file.92 END

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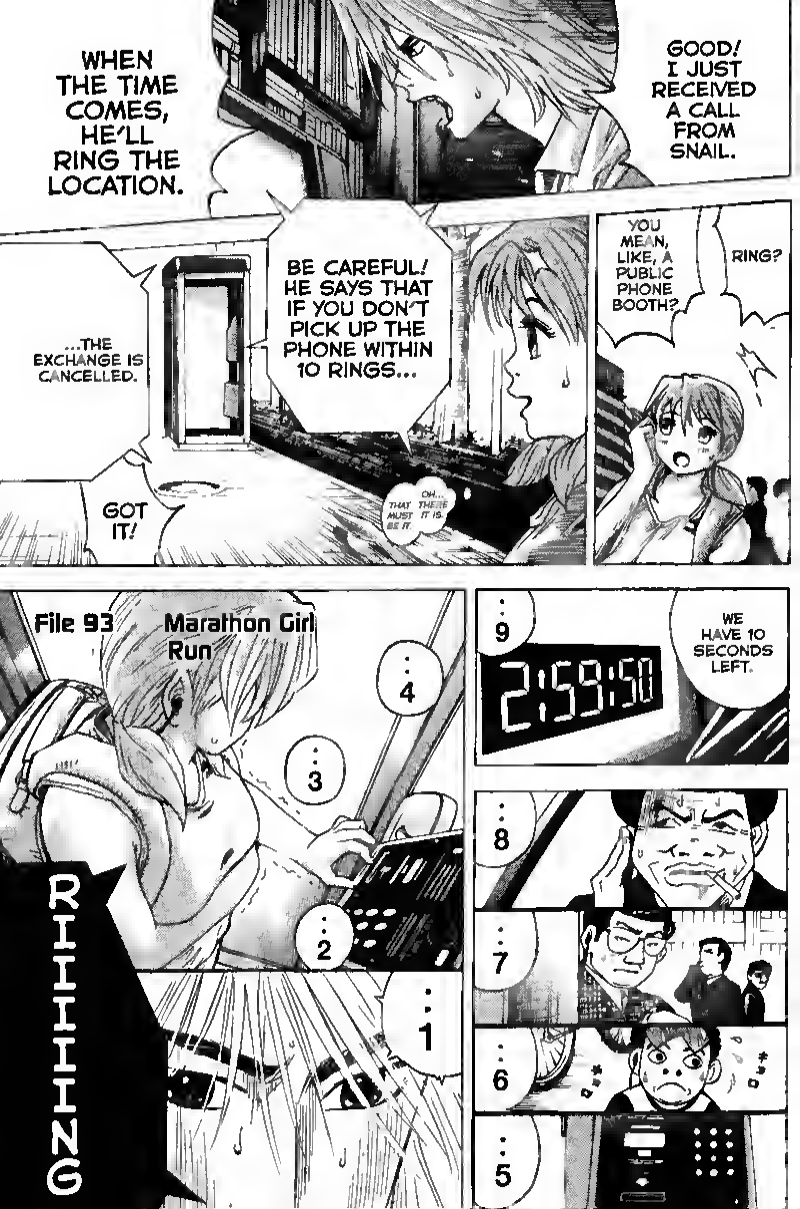

WHEN THE TIME COMES, HE'LL RING THE LOCATION.
GOOD! I JUST RECEIVED A CALL FROM SNAIL.
BE CAREFUL! HE SAYS THAT IF YOU DON'T PICK UP THE PHONE WITHIN 10 RINGS...
...THE EXCHANGE IS CANCELLED.
GOT IT!
OH... THAT THERE MUST IT IS. BE IT
YOU MEAN, LIKE, A PUBLIC PHONE BOOTH?
RING?
File 93 Marathon Girl Run
RIIIIING
...4
...3
...2
...1
...9
2:59:50
WE HAVE 10 SECONDS LEFT.
...8
...7
...6
...5

!
HELLO!
YES, SIR!
カカカ
ROB! EXPAND THE MEETING AREA!
HELLO ?
HUH?
INSPECTOR, THIS PHONE ISN'T RINGING!
WHAT ?!
TAK
TAK
PING
A CELL-PHONE SHOP.
!!
IT'S NOT THE PHONE BOOTH! IT'S A CELL-PHONE SHOP!
HERE WE GO!

WHAT?!
!!
RIIIIING
RIIIIING
RIIIIING
HURRY, AYAKI!
RIIIIING

OH, MY GOD!
RIIIIING
WAIT! WAAAAIT!
HOW CAN I FIND IT AMONG SO MANY CELL-PHONES?!
RIIIIING
RIIIIING
OH, GOD! OH, GOD!
WHICH ONE IS IT ?!
OH...!
THIS IS THE 8TH RING!
¥4000-
RIIII...
H-HELLO ?
HELLO ?!

H-HEY!
GIVE NAOMI BACK!
I BROUGHT YOU THE DIAMONDS AS PROMISED!
THAT WAS CLOSE, WASN'T IT...?
S-SORRY.
WHY AM I APOLOGIZING?
HEL—
I'M SORRY
SORRY
AYAKI! DON'T UPSET THE KIDNAPPER!
HEE HEE HEE... YOU'RE AN ENERGETIC GIRL.
THAT'S MY BEST QUALITY.
I WONDER HOW MUCH LONGER YOU CAN BE THAT WAY...
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THE NEXT CALL WILL BE MADE TO A PLACE WHERE BIRDS GATHER.
YOU HAVE 5 MINUTES. IF YOU RUN, YOU MIGHT MAKE IT.
BIRDS
GO, MARATHON GIRL! IT'S A LITTLE COLD, BUT YOU CAN TAKE A DIP IN THE WATER IF YOU WANT.
H...HEY! WHERE IS THAT?!

YES, SIR!
BOB! GIVE ME THE SHORTEST ROUTE TO THE PARK!
ALL RIGHT!
I'LL NAVI-GATE YOU!
WHAT? THE PARK...? WHERE?
AYAK!/ GO TO THE PARK! HURRY!
WHERE BIRDS GATHER?
ALL RIGHT, HERE GOES NOTHING!
...THE PARK..!!

THROUGH THE NEXT LIGHT!
THERE SHE GOES
GOT IT.
GOOD
THEN GO 50 METERS STRAIGHT AND TURN RIGHT!
I'LL FOLLOW HER
GOT IT—
PANT...
PANT...
PANT...
PANT..
HURRY! YOU'VE GOT 30 SECONDS!

I'M AT THE PARK!
BUT THE PARK IS SO BIG...
NOW IT'S 5 MINUTES. DO YOU HEAR THE RING?
GOOD! YOU MADE IT!

...
I CAN'T TELL... IT'S TOO FAR AWAY!
RING
RING

RING ...?
...
RING
RING
I DO! VERY SLIGHTLY ...
FROM WHERE?!

...A PARK... WHERE BIRDS GATHER...
5TH RING!

THE FOUNTAIN...
IT'S A LITTLE COLD, BUT YOU CAN TAKE A DIP IN THE WATER IF YOU LIKE.
I'VE GOT EYES LIKE A HAWK...
AYAKI! THE FOUNTAIN!

THERE IT IS!
RIIING
AH!
RIII...

SHIT...
NO!
AH.
WHAT'S WRONG, AYAKI ...?
?!
...DROPPED THE PHONE IN THE FOUNTAIN...?
DON'T TELL ME YOU...

...I ALMOST DID...
mizuno

POOR NAIVE GIRL.
TSK.
BARELY MADE IT THAT TIME. HEE HEE HEE.
THAT'S WHY...
...YOU HAVE TO KEEP RUNNING UNTIL NO ONE CAN FOLLOW YOU.
I'VE GOT NO TAILS ON ME!
NOT YET...I CAN'T MAKE A TRADE UNTIL I GET RID OF ALL THE TAILS ON YOU.
WHERE ARE YOU?! WHY DON'T YOU SHOW YOURSELF?!
THERE SHE GOES AGAIN?!
OH
ニィーッ
TOO OBVIOUS
...I HAD NO IDEA ...
!
NOW, THE NEXT LOCATION.
SHE'S OFF!
AH...

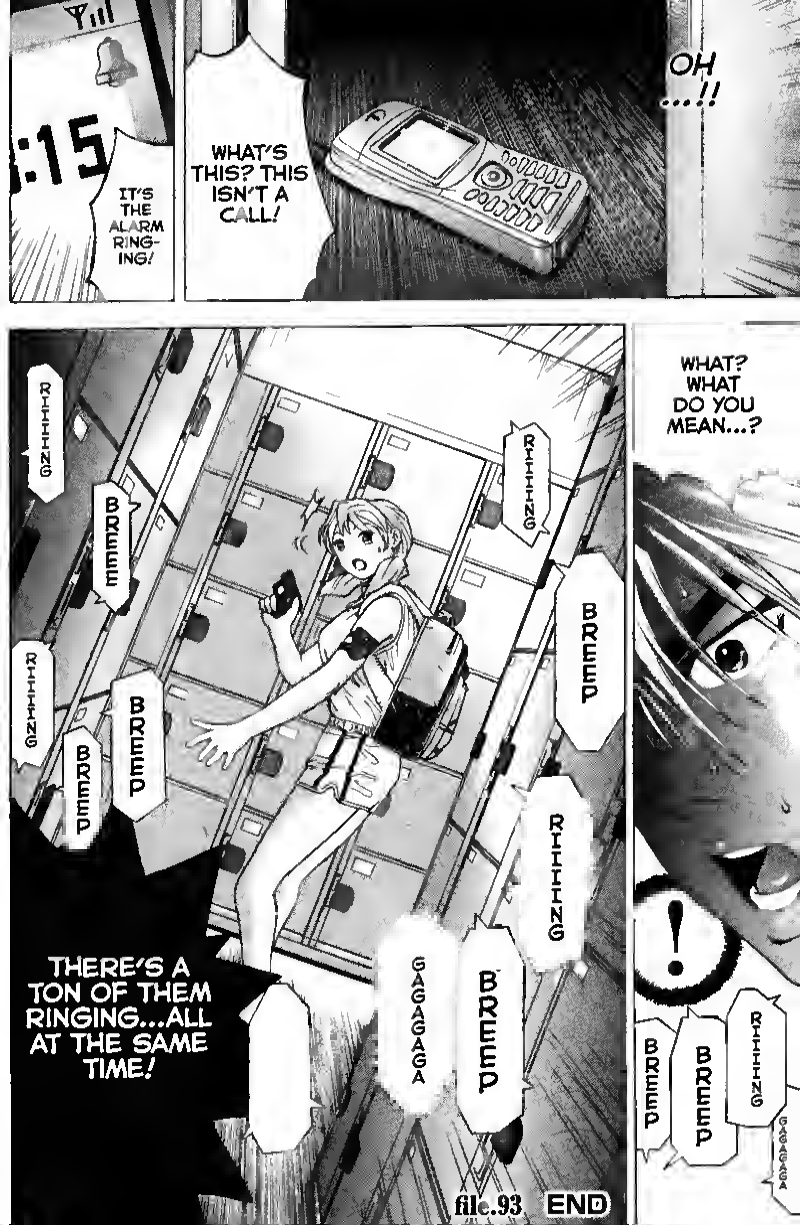
YOU'RE A REAL DETECTIVE, OFFICER AYAKI.
I HAD NO IDEA THAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING SUCH TOUGH WORK...
...ALL BY YOURSELF...
...SNAIL TOLD ME TO LEAVE THE BASEMENT.
LEAVE? YOU? THE KIDNAPPER SAID THAT...?
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
SQUEAK
!
I DON'T KNOW WHY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER? AREN'T YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF AN INVESTIGATION, BOB?

YOU'RE GOING UNDER-GROUND SOON.
YOUR CELL PHONE MIGHT GET DISCON-NECTED.
SWITCH TO THE PITCH-PHONE!
RIGHT!
はあ
はあ
はあ
はあ
はあ

YES, SIR
YOU'LL STICK OUT AT THE STATION! WAIT WHERE YOU ARE UNTIL WE CATCH UP!
WHAT?! SUBWAY?!
OFFICER AYAKI WENT INTO A SUBWAY STATION
キィィィ・・・
OH
I'M GOING DOWN!
SHIT! THAT GIRL HAS TOO MUCH STAMINA!
...SO, SNAIL IS HERE?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO.
I'M AT THE LOCKERS!
THEN WHY...?
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SHOOT SNAIL.
GOOD! DRAW YOUR GUN!
!
THE GUN?
WHAT?
THE NEXT CELL-PHONE WILL BE IN THE LOCKER IT'D PROBABLY BE A PITCH-PHONE.

THE RING...
SHOOT IT!
052
BEEEEEEEP
チャ...
CLICK
GOOD! IT'S OPEN!

WHAT? SO...
YOU SHOOT THE LOCKER.
WHEN THE TIME COMES, THE PHONE IN THE LOCKER RINGS WHEN YOU HEAR THE RING, SHOOT OFF THE LOCK.
BREAK THE LOCK AND OPEN THE DOOR, OKAY?
OKAY!
.....
GOOD! IT'S TIME!


:15
IT'S THE ALARM RING-ING!
WHAT'S THIS? THIS ISN'T A CALL!
OH ...!!
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
!
RITITING
BREEP
GAGAGAGA
BREEP
RITITING
BREEP
RITITING
BREEP
BREEP
RITITING
THERE'S A TON OF THEM RINGING...ALL AT THE SAME TIME!

file.93 END

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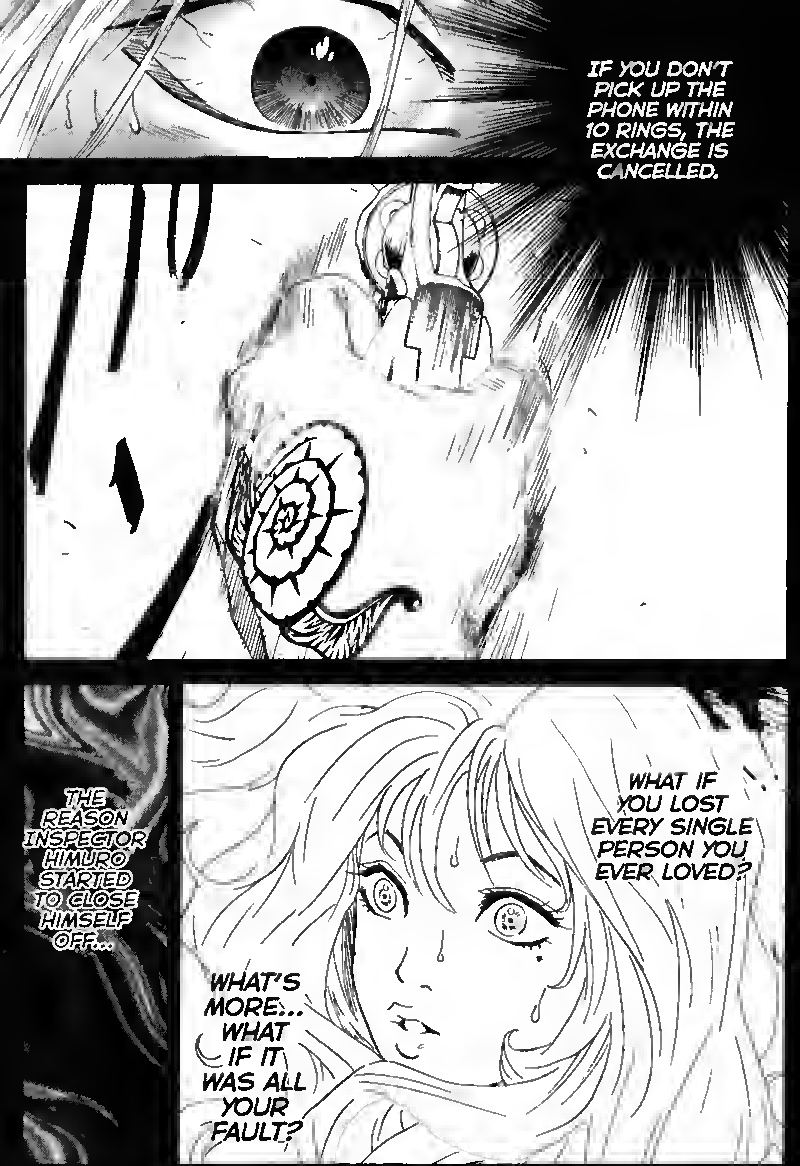
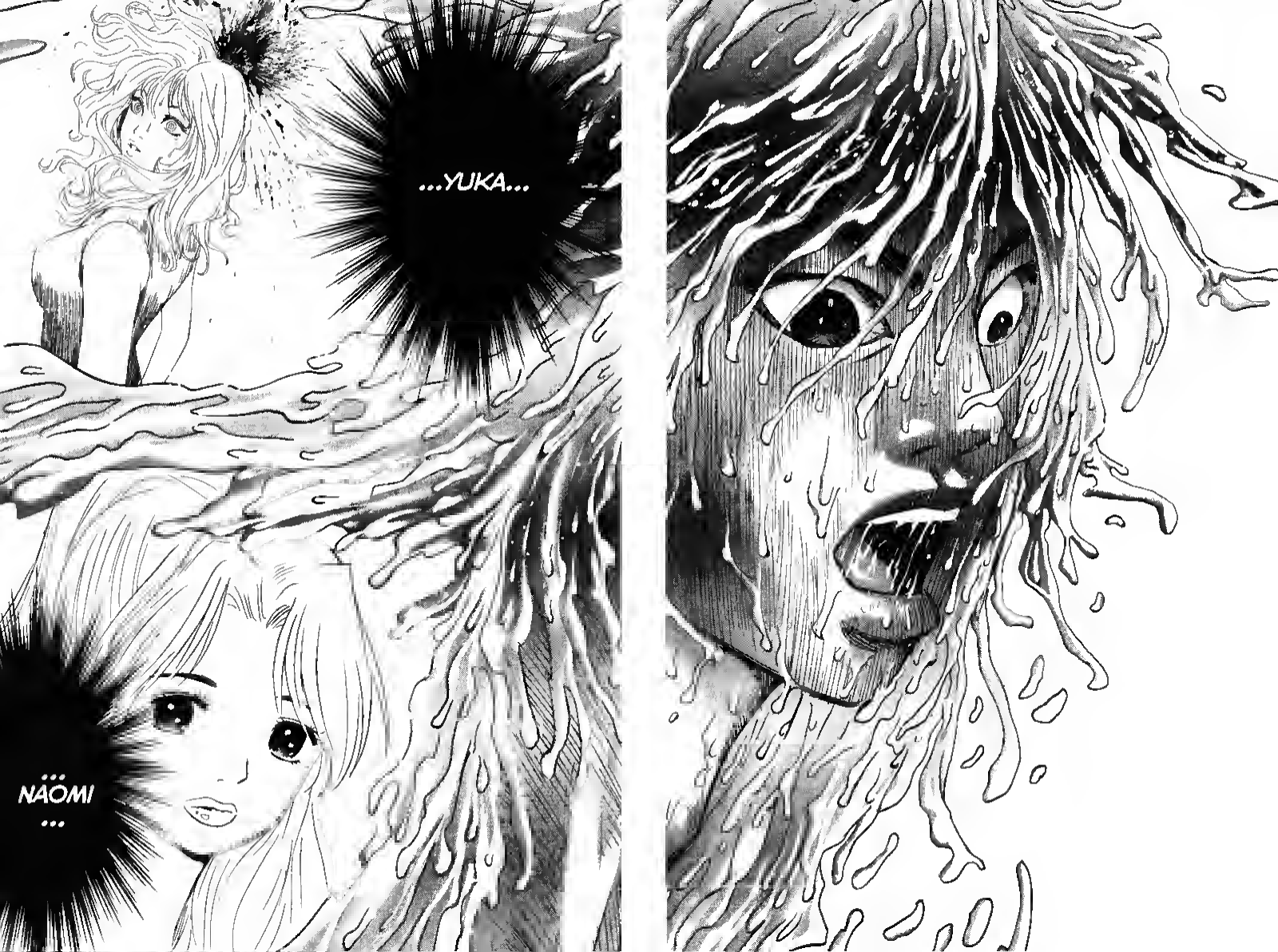
BEEEP
RITITING
GAGAGA
BIP BIP
RITITING
RITITING
BEEEP
BEEEP
BRRRRR
RITITING
BIP BIP
BEEEP
BRIP BRIP
RITITING
ALL THE LOCKERS ARE RINGING! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIND THE RIGHT ONE?
WHAT DO I DO? TELL ME WHAT I SHOULD DO, INSPECTOR...!
File 94
Marathon Girl Broken Bond
ONE OF THE RINGS IS THE REAL PHONE RINGING! ALL THE OTHERS ARE ALARMS!
AYAKI! CALM DOWN!
SHIT! THAT BASTARD!
WHAT DO I DO NOW?
I'LL TELL YOU THE NUMBER!
THEY WERE SET TO RING AT THE SAME TIME!

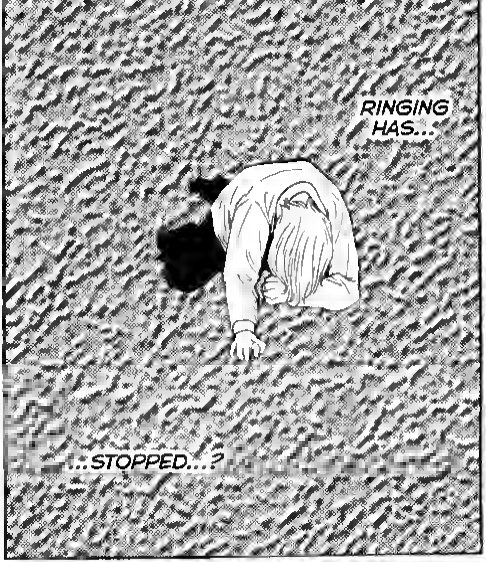
WHAT?
USE THE PITCH-PHONE YOU'RE USING AND DIAL THIS NUMBER!
IT'S UNDERGROUND. HE'S PROBABLY USING A PITCH-PHONE, TOO.
WHAT? USE MY PITCH-PHONE ...?
IF SO...
...WH-WHAT?
OH, NO!
DISCONNECTED UNABLE TO MAKE CALL
BRRRR...
N...NO! DISCONNECTED... AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
HIS PHONE AND YOURS ARE LIKELY CONNECTED FROM THE SAME ACCESS POINT!
...WE MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE A THREE-WAY.
IF I INPUT THE SECRET COMMAND AND SYNCHRONIZE HIS PITCH-PHONE...
WOW!
HURRY, HURRY!
INGENI-OUS!
READY? PRESS THE STAR FIRST AND THEN, ##0023...
OH, GOD!
NOT NOW! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
INSPEC-TOR?
INSPEC-TOR? 0023 AND WHAT'S NEXT?
HELLO ?!
HELLO ?!
OUT OF AREA
OUT OF AREA... I HAVE TO GO UPSTAIRS.


IF YOU DON'T PICK UP THE PHONE WITHIN 10 RINGS, THE EXCHANGE IS CANCELLED.
THE REASON INSPECTOR HIMURO STARTED TO CLOSE HIMSELF OFF...
WHAT IF YOU LOST EVERY SINGLE PERSON YOU EVER LOVED?
WHAT'S MORE... WHAT IF IT WAS ALL YOUR FAULT?


...YUKA...
...NAOMI...

...I WILL...
...I WILL SAVE NAOMI...
...BY MYSELF.
TO CONNECT THE CELL-PHONE ...
...I MUST GO OUTSIDE ...

DU!
UH, WELL, I...I'M VERY PLEASED TO MEET YOU! OFFICER KURUMI AYAKI FROM THE SOUTH SHIBUYA POLICE STATION, TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT...
...AT YOUR SERVICE!!
I MUST GO OUTSIDE...
ACTUALLY I CAN'T LEAVE THIS ROOM, EVER.
NEVER LEAVE THIS ROOM.


RINGING HAS...
...STOPPED...?

K--KOU!

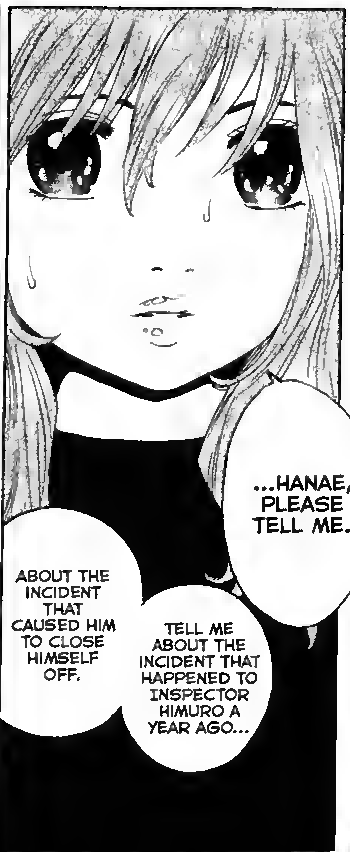
THE GAME'S OVER...

KURUMI CALLED!
SHE SAYS THE RINGING HAS...
STOPPED

NA
NAOMI
トゥ
トゥ...

KOU!!

YOU SAID THAT SOMEONE HE LOVED DIED BECAUSE OF HIM...
THAT'S NAOMI-SAN'S SISTER, ISN'T IT?


...HANAE, PLEASE TELL ME.
ABOUT THE INCIDENT THAT CAUSED HIM TO CLOSE HIMSELF OFF.
TELL ME ABOUT THE INCIDENT THAT HAPPENED TO INSPECTOR HIMURO A YEAR AGO...

The next day...

YUKA-SAN AND MASTER KOZABURO WERE...
THEY WERE IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER
YUKA
SA-KAKI
THAT'S RIGHT
NAOMI-SAN'S SISTER... YUKA SAKAKI.
...THEY MUST HAVE BEEN LONELY, TOO.
LIKE MASTER KOZABURO, YUKA-SAN AND NAOMI-SAN HAD LOST THEIR PARENTS, SO...
SINCE THEN, THE THREE OF THEM WERE ALWAYS CLOSE.
MASTER KOZABURO WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL...
...WHEN THEY FIRST MET.
NAOMI-SAN WAS HIS CHILDHOOD FRIEND AND SHE BROUGHT HER SISTER HERE.
I THINK THAT WAS BECAUSE HE WANTED TO GO TO COLLEGE WITH YUKA-SAN AND SHE WAS TWO YEARS OLDER THAN HIM.
HE SKIPPED TWO GRADES AND WENT TO COLLEGE EARLY...
MASTER KOZABURO STARTED TO DATE YUKA-SAN WHEN HE WAS A COLLEGE STUDENT.
GLANCE

THEY WERE SUCH PERFECT COUPLE.
I CAN'T IMAGINE THE INSPECTOR BE PROACHED ?
AND YUKA-SAN WAS AN INDEPENDENT PERSON... SHE WOULD REPROACH MASTER KOZABURO LIKE A SISTER WOULD...
...BECAUSE HE WAS A LITTLE SELFISH AND PROUD OF HIMSELF.
REALLY ?
BACK THEN, MASTER KOZABURO WAS SUCH A CHEERFUL PERSON.
...THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN MARRIED AND PROBABLY STARTING A FAMILY BY NOW.
IF THAT... INCIDENT... DIDN'T HAPPEN A YEAR AGO...
KID-NAP-PING?!
IT WAS A KIDNAP-PING.
TELL ME ABOUT THE INCIDENT.

NAOMI-SAN?
NOT YUKA-SAN?!
YES... A MAN CALLING HIMSELF "SNAIL" HAD A GRUDGE AGAINST MASTER KOZABURO AND HE KIDNAPPED NAOMI-SAN.
NOT CASH, BUT 300 MILLION YEN WORTH OF DIAMONDS.
SNAIL MISTOOK NAOMI AS MASTER KOZABURO'S GIRLFRIEND.
AND HE REQUESTED THE RANSOM OF 300 MILLION YEN.
LET MY SISTER GO!
BUT YUKA ANSWERED THE CALL FROM SNAIL, AND...
I'M KOZABURO'S GIRLFRIEND.
NAOMI HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM—SO, PLEASE—!
IT'S THE SAME...
IT'S THE SAME AS THIS CASE!
MASTER KOZABURO PUT TOGETHER THE RANSOM FROM HIS PARENTS' INHERITANCE...

HELLO? IT'S HIMURO!
YUKA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HEE HEE HEE... LOOKS LIKE I MADE A MISTAKE.
HE TOOK EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION FOR HER S_FETY.
MASTER KOZ_BURO WAS CALLED THE BEST BRAIN IN THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT.
BUT...
SNAIL TOLD YUKA-SAN TO BRING THE DIAMONDS
OH, NO...
MASTER KOZABURO TRIED TO STOP YUKA-SAN. BUT SHE WOULDN'T LISTEN. SHE WENT TO DELIVER THE RANSOM.
キィィ

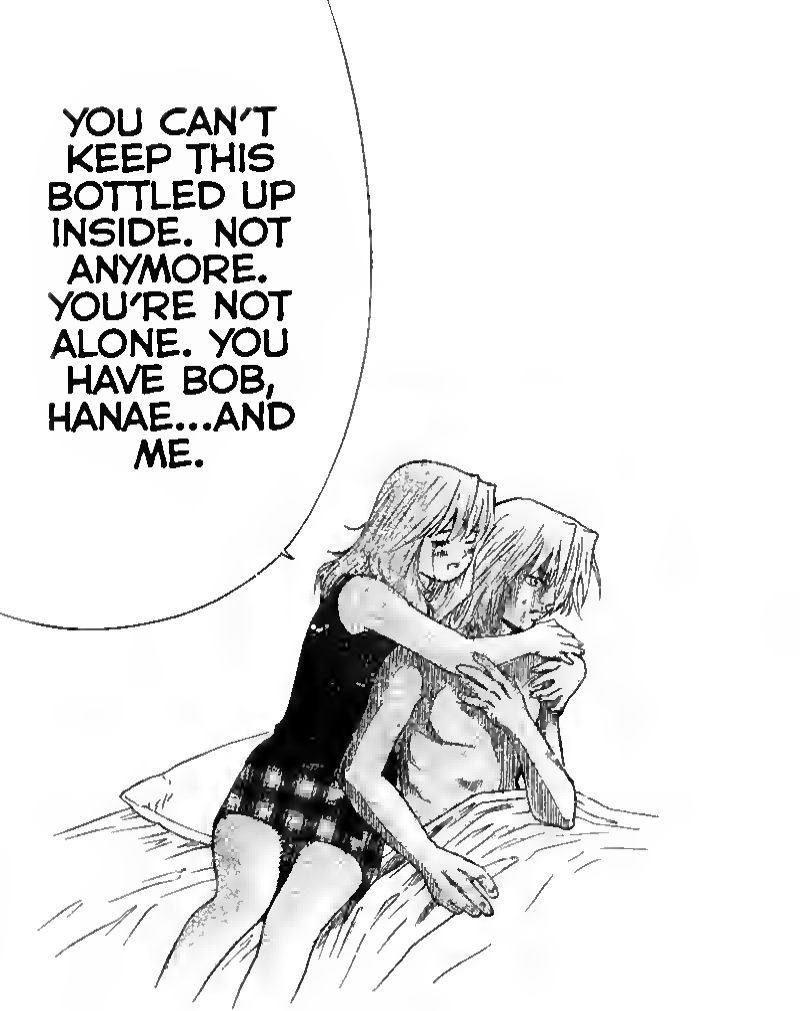
NO!!
YOU'RE DEAD!
HA HA HA!
KO-KOZABURO!
NO...

Y-
YUKA!!
HA HA HA HA! ISN'T SHE SWEET?
HUH?!
?!

BUT MASTER KOZABURO IS STILL...
SHE WAS ABLE TO GO ON, TO RECOVER ANO GET ON WITH HER LIFE.
NAOMI-SAN WAS RELEASED SAFELY.
...
HE LOVED YUKA-SAN MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD, AND SHE WAS KILLED BECAUSE OF HIM...
AND NOW, IT'S ALL HAPPENING AGAIN.
"SNAIL" DIED AT THE SCENE.
WHOEVER KIDNAPPED NAOMI THIS TIME...
...MUST BE SOMEONE ELSE.
IT HAS TO BE.
MAYBE SOMEONE FROM SNAIL'S FAMILY SEEKING REVENGE...
...AGAINST MASTER KOZA-BURO.
IT MUST BE RE-VENGE.
WHEN I THINK ABOUT HOW MASTER KOZABURO MUST BE FEELING, IT BREAKS MY HEART.

LET HER GO, HANAE.
KURUMI! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
MASTER KOZABURO IS SLEEPING...
!
ガチャ
ギィィ…
…

I AM NOW.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IN-SPECTOR ...YOU'RE AWAKE?
WHAT IS IT, AYAKI...?
PLEASE GET OUT!
I DON'T REMEMBER CALLING YOU.
I SAID GET OUT!
...I WON'T.


YOU CAN'T KEEP THIS BOTTLED UP INSIDE. NOT ANYMORE. YOU'RE NOT ALONE. YOU HAVE BOB, HANAE...AND ME.

OH MY GOD!
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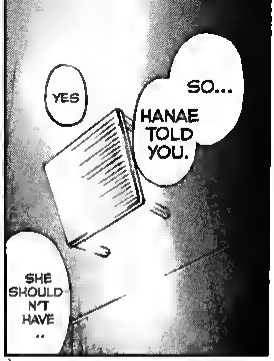
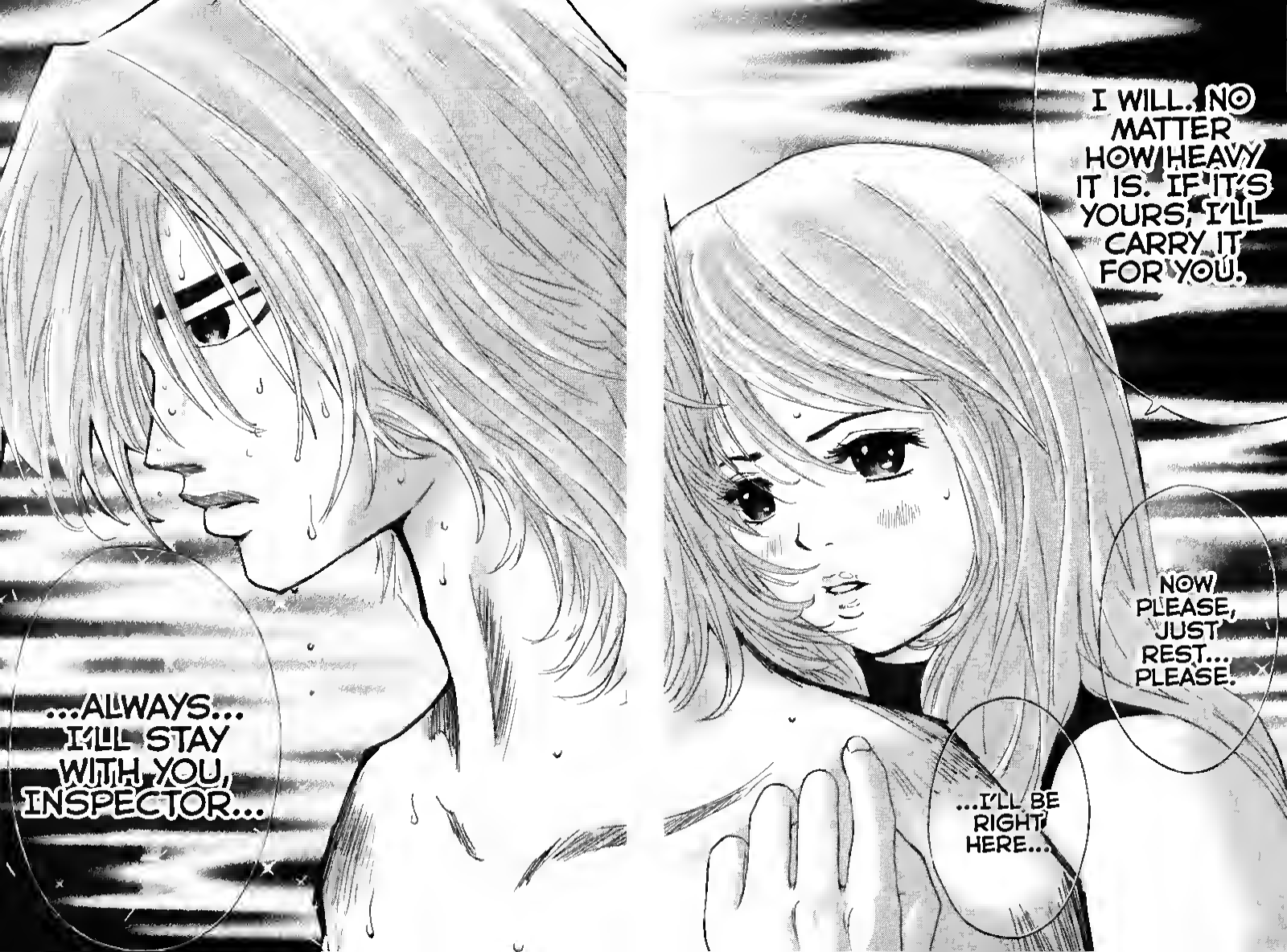
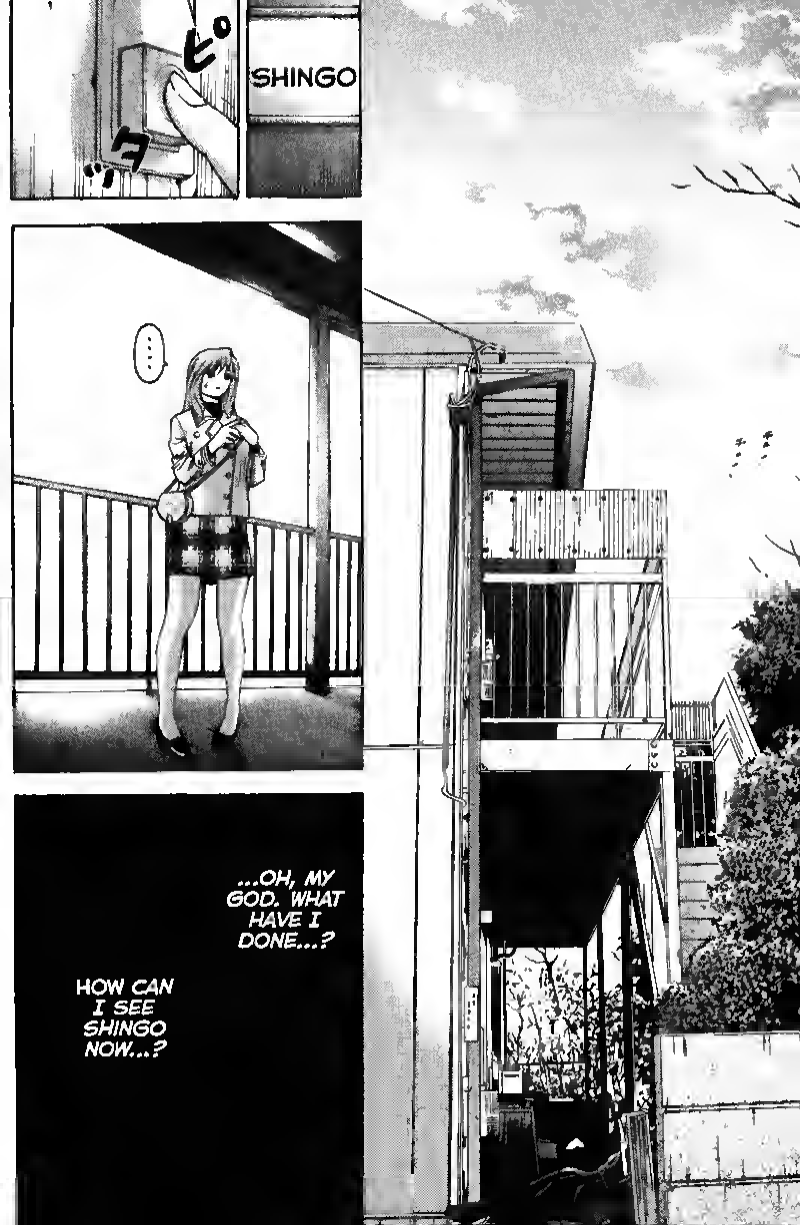


File 95 Marathon Girl Torn

NO MATTER WHAT I DO...
...THEY'RE STILL DEAD...
PLEASE, YOU CAN'T GIVE UP!
IF YOU SAY THAT, THAT'S THE END!
I'M SURE THAT NAOMI-SAN IS STILL ALIVE...
PLEASE
DON'T BLAME YOURSELF, INSPECTOR.
WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS...

CAN YOU CARRY MY BURDEN FOR ME?
WHAT CAN YOU DO?


...ALWAYS... I'LL STAY WITH YOU, INSPECTOR...
I WILL. NO MATTER HOW HEAVY IT IS. IF IT'S YOURS, I'LL CARRY IT FOR YOU.
NOW, PLEASE, JUST REST... PLEASE.
...I'LL BE RIGHT HERE...

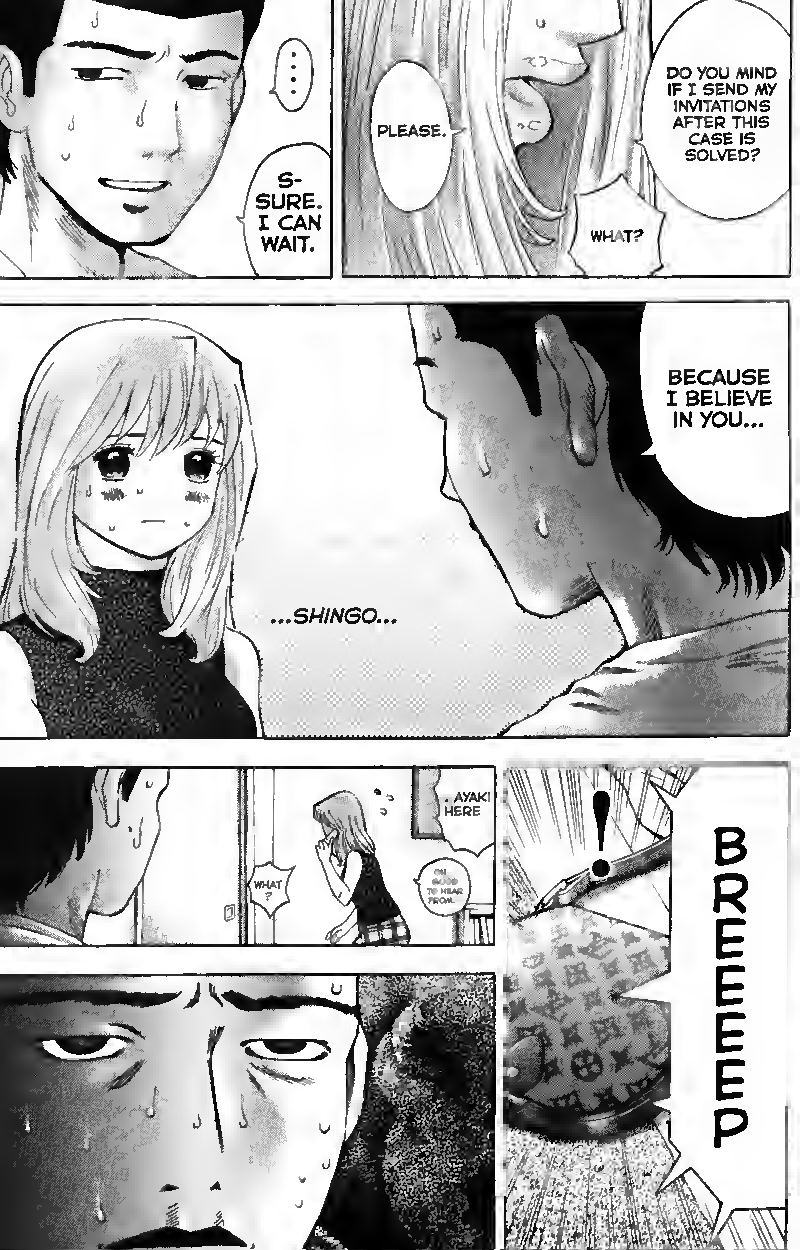

ピ
SHINGO
...
...OH, MY GOD. WHAT HAVE I DONE...?
HOW CAN I SEE SHINGO NOW...?

WHAT?
SH-SHINGO ?!
KURUMI. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
HUH?
....?
UH... HI.
I'M...I'M SORRY.
I THINK I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO MARRY YOU ANYMORE...
WHAAAT?! WHA... WHAT'S GOING ON HERE ?

I...I SPENT THE NIGHT WITH INSPECTOR HIMURO!
YOU... WHAT?
DID YOU... DID YOU DO IT?
NO! I DIDN'T!
HUH?
SO...
I'M CONFUSED WHAT DID YOU DO?
NOTHING ...
PHEW
WHAT ?
I DON'T GET IT.
WELL....
NO, I DIDN'T...
TH-THEN... DID YOU KISS HIM?

INSPECTOR HIMURO WAS SO UPSET AND... I...I THOUGHT THAT HE SHOULDN'T BE ALONE.
!!
I FELL ASLEEP WITHOUT KNOWING IT...
...AND I WOKE UP THIS MORNING...
...I'M SORRY... I DON'T DESERVE TO MARRY YOU...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, KURUMI ...
WHAT?
YOUR INTENTIONS WERE INNOCENT, RIGHT?
THEN, THERE'S NOTHING TO BE UPSET ABOUT, RIGHT?

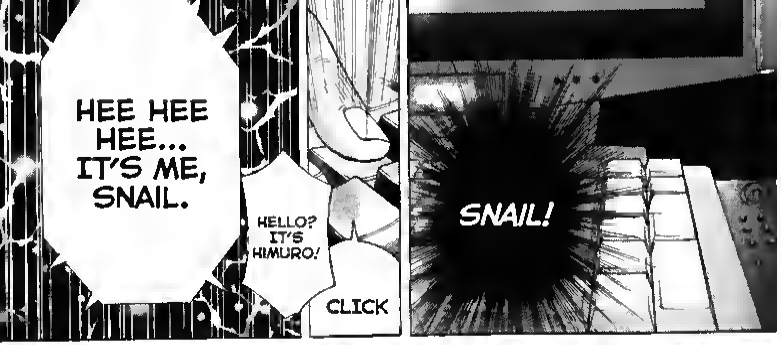
SHINGO...
YOUR BOSS AT WORK WAS UPSET... AND YOU CONSOLED HIM.
SO WHAT?
YOUR COMPASSIONATE HEART IS PART OF THE REASON I LOVE YOU.
.....
IT'S GOING TO BE A BUFFET, SO IT'LL BE FINE IF MORE PEOPLE SHOW UP.
WEDDING..
WE HAVE ONLY TWO WEEKS UNTIL OUR WEDDING. A CHALLENGE LIKE THIS MAKES OUR RELATIONSHIP EVEN STRONGER, DON'T YOU THINK?
LET'S MAKE A HAPPY FAMILY TOGETHER, KURUMI...
...
BRIDAL GIFT
..LOOKS LIKE MOST OF MY FRIENDS ARE COMING.
I WAS WORRIED THAT WE WOULDN'T HAVE MANY GUESTS BECAUSE OF THE SHORT NOTICE, BUT..
I GOT BACK A LOT OF R'SVP'S.
YOU BETTER SEND YOUR INVITATIONS SOON, OKAY?


...
S-SURE. I CAN WAIT.
PLEASE.
WHAT?
DO YOU MIND IF I SEND MY INVITATIONS AFTER THIS CASE IS SOLVED?
BECAUSE I BELIEVE IN YOU...
...SHINGO...
WHAT?
AYAKI HERE
BREEEEP
!

NAOMI-SAN IS ALL RIGHT?
ナナナ
?

UM... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS IS A SYSTEM TO ROUTE THE CELL-PHONE SIGNAL INTO HERE.
OH?
WITH THIS, I CAN TALK TO YOU ON THE PHONE EVEN IF THERE'S SOME TROUBLE WITH THE CIRCUIT.
THE HOTLINE BETWEEN YOU AND I WON'T BE DIS-CONNECTED.

INSPECTOR...
I KNEW NAOMI-SAN WAS ALL RIGHT. ♡
WHAT DID I TELL YOU?
I WAS SURE SHE WOULD BE
IT'S NOT TIME TO RELAX YET. SHE'S STILL IN SNAIL'S HANDS.
WE'VE JUST RE-STARTED THE EX-CHANGE. THAT'S ALL.
YEAH...
TEE HEE ♡
RIGHT, SORRY
GOOD... THAT'S THE INSPECTOR HIMURO I KNOW...
IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE DELIBER-ATELY CUT THE PHONE LINE.
WHAT?
WHAT'S MORE, THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT A LISTENING DEVICE WAS ONCE IN THE BOX.
AND...
THE REASON WHY WE WERE DIS-CONNECT-ED THE OTHER DAY...
OH, YES... IT WAS SOME SORT OF TECHNICAL GLITCH, RIGHT...?


HEE HEE HEE... IT'S ME, SNAIL.
HELLO? IT'S HIMURO!
CLICK
SNAIL!

NOW... LET'S START OUR GAME...
YOU BASTARD ...!
WAIT, YOU COWARD!
...KOZA BURO? PLEASE... HELP... PLEASE...
HEE HEE HEE. THAT'S ALL YOU GET INSPECTOR HIMURO.
NAOMI! ARE YOU HURT?
DEPENDING ON YOUR ACTIONS. THIS COULD BE THE LAST TIME YOU HEAR FROM THE WOMAN YOU LOVE.

BREEEP
WE WERE TAPPED...?!
IS NAOMI ALL RIGHT?!
OH, YES, SHE IS...
WANNA HEAR HER VOICE?
...
HE TOLD BOB TO LEAVE THE ROOM. THAT MEANS...
...HE MUST HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO ALL OUR PHONE CONVER SATIONS...

OF COURSE NOT!
RIGHT! JUST LIKE THE "SNAIL" A YEAR AGO...
...YOU THINK THAT INSPECTOR HIMURO IS IN LOVE WITH NAOMI-SAN.
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT THAT'S NOT TRUE?
SO WHO THEN, MARATHON GIRL? YOU?
UH ...
YUKA-SAN.
...VIDEO ...?!
STOP!
NO!
SECURITY...
I HAVE A LOT TO SAY! I SAW WHAT YOU DID ON THE SECURITY VIDEO!
GETTING IT WRONG ...?
AND BESIDES THAT, YOU'RE GETTING IT ALL WRONG
WAITING AT THE APARTMENT LIKE SOME PERVERT STALKER!
STOP!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
LET ME TALK TO HER.
WAIT... SHE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH...
DO AS I SAID!
...IT'S ME. "MARATHON GIRL."
YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY? SAY IT.

file.95 END

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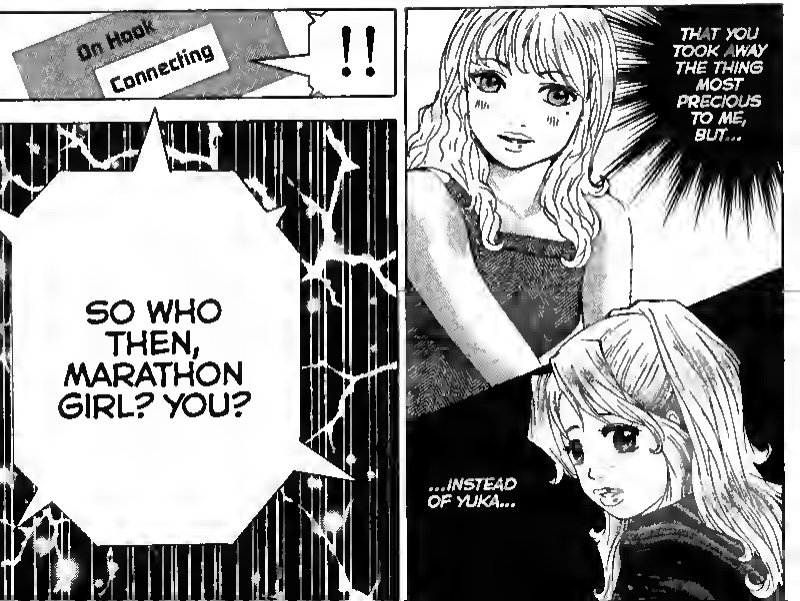
File 96 Marathon Girl Second Challenge



THE WOMAN I LOVE IS... KURUMI AYAKI.
!!!
KURUMI AYAKI.

IN-
INSPECTOR
...?!
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
ドキ
HE
SAID...
HE'S...

...IN LOVE WITH ME...?!

LET'S TALK ABOUT BUSINESS. SHALL WE?
SEND THAT KURUMI AYAKI TO THE LOCATION I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU. HAVE HER WEAR THE SAME OUTFIT.
HAVE HER BRING THE DIAMONDS.
SAME OUTFIT?

THAT BIG FRIEND OF YOURS. SEND HIM WITH HER.
AS A "MARATHON BOY".
!!
LET'S HOPE YOU WON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE THIS TIME, INSPECTOR HIMURO.
.....

?!
AYAKI! PUT ON THAT RUNNING OUTFIT IMMEDIATELY AND...?
AYAKI... WHY ARE YOU SPACING OUT?
ホヤ～ッ
HUH?
B-BECAUSE YOU CONFESSED YOUR LOVE TO ME OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THAT...
IDIOT! DON'T TAKE THAT SERI-OUSLY!
HUH?
I JUST LURED SNAIL BY SAYING IT. THAT'S ALL!
B-BE-CAUSE NAOMI-SAN SOUNDED SO WEAK AND SNAIL'S SUCH A JERK, SO...
...
I COULD-N'T HELP IT...
YOU SNAPPED AND PROVOKED THE KIDNAP-PER...
YOU FORCED MY HAND.
UH-
WELL-
UM...
UH-
ホヤ...

SOME-THING IN MY EYE...
WHA? OH... NOTH-ING.
NEVER MIND. LET'S JUST GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
Y-YES, SIR.
HM? WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
WELL, BUT THANKS TO YOU...I'M BEGINNING TO SEE SOMETHING I DIDN'T BEFORE.

AND...
...TAKE THIS WITH YOU.
!!

IS THIS A...GUN? IT LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM THE SMALL ONE I'VE BEEN USING...
WHAT?
IF YOU HAVE TO, YOU SHOOT THE KIDNAPPER WITH IT, OKAY?

DON'T WORRY. TRUST ME.
...
YES, SIR!
...STUPID...
YEAH... INSPECTOR HIMURO CAN'T BE IN LOVE WITH ME.
WHAT THE HELL WAS I THINKING?
HE DOESN'T FEEL ANY-THING...

COME ON, SNAIL! I'M GONNA GET YOU THIS TIME!

ARE YOU READY, AYAKI?
OH... YES, SIR!
GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU, INSPECTOR!
WHY IS THAT?
OH... NOTHING... ♡
I... I SLEPT A LITTLE LAST NIGHT. THANKS TO YOU.
...I'M GLAD.
WE HAVE ONE MINUTE TO GO. ARE YOU READY?
YES, SIR...
GOOD
!
...
...

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WHERE IS IT RINGING?
WH-WHERE?
BEEEEP
HMM? I CAN'T FIND IT, INSPEC-TOR...
OUT OF MY WAY!
POLICE!
CELL-PHONE SHOP!!
CONCEN-TRATION!
I TOLD YOU BEFORE...
LOOK CARE-FULLY!
...THAT CONCEN-TRATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EYE-SIGHT!
HERE IT COMES...

BEEEP
THERE IT IS! ♡
BEEEP
I FOUND IT! IT'S IN A PHONE BOOTH...
BOB! MOVE, MOVE!
JEEZ! QUICK! QUICK!
BEEEP
YOU'RE IN MY WAY!
DON'T PUSH ME, KURUMI
H-
HELLO?
YOU WERE QUICK THIS TIME, EH?
BEEEP...
OOOOOH...

YOU'RE GONNA KEEP RUNNING EVERYWHERE UNTIL I GET RID OF YOUR TAILS. HEE HEE HEE...
NOW... WHAT'S NEXT?
BE PATIENT, MARATHON GIRL.
I'LL RUN AS MUCH AS YOU WANT ME TO, SNAIL...!
WHATEVER YOU TRY...
...YOU CAN NEVER BEAT INSPECTOR HIMURO.
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, AYAKI!!
NAOMI'S LIFE DEPENDS ON YOUR LEGS!!

file.96 END

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STAIRS...
SHIT! SHE'S IN THE ALLEY AGAIN!
SHE CAN REALLY RUN!
I CAN'T FOLLOW YOU ANYMORE, KURUMI.
Y-YOU'RE TOO FAST.
OH, MY GOD!
I SEE... LOOKS LIKE THE OTHER COPS COULDN'T KEEP UP...
YOU'RE NOT JUST A "MARATHON GIRL" BY NAME, EH? HEE HEE HEE...
...NOW, THIS IS YOUR FINAL DESTINATION...
はぁ
はぁはぁはぁは

FROM NOW ON, DISCONNECT YOUR PHONE FROM HIMURO!
WHAT?
HURRY, OR NAOMI WILL BE DEAD.
ALL RIGHT!
FOLLOW HIS ORDERS.
...
!!
HE'S TELLING ME TO COME TO YOUR HOUSE, BUT... SHOULD I?
?!
HANAE
HANAE.
ANSWER ME IF YOU'RE THERE.
はぁ
はぁ
はぁ
はぁ
BOB! IT'S ME, HIMURO!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, KOU?
WHERE ARE YOU AT?
IDIOT...! JUST PRETEND TO DISCONNECT...
CLICK
SHIT!
Disconnected
!
...DON'T LET ME DOWN, KURUMI...

...KOZABURO...? ARE YOU THERE...? ANSWER ME IF YOU ARE... IT'S ME... NAOMI...
NAOMI ...!!
KOZA-BURO...
HELP...
I'M IN YOUR HOUSE NOW.

SNAIL TOOK ME HERE...
NAOMI...!!
PLEASE... HELP ME, KOZABURO!
...I CAN'T.
WHY? YOU'RE HERE, RIGHT?
I'M NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE MY ROOM.
WHY?

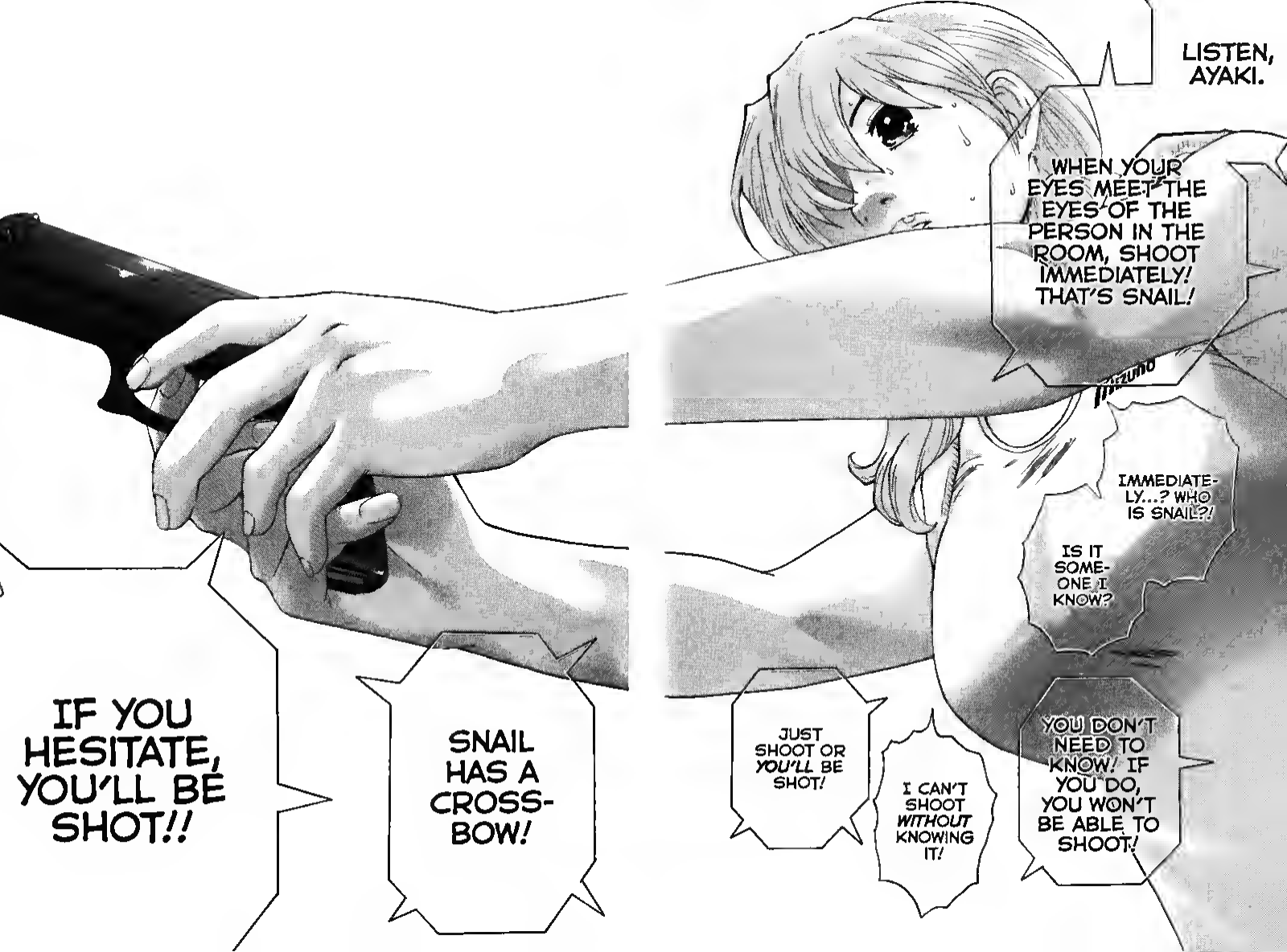
BECAUSE THIS IS A JAIL.
はぁ…
はぁ…
はぁ…
…JAIL?
THIS BASEMENT IS A JAIL.
IT'S A JAIL TO HOLD A SINNER...
...WHO COULDN'T SAVE THE WOMAN MOST PRECIOUS TO HIM.
THE MAN WHO LET HER DIE.

I CAN'T.
SO ...
I CAN'T LEAVE HERE FOR YOU...
KOZA-BURO...
NAOMI
!
HANAE, ARE YOU HERE?
... SNAIL IS HERE.
AYAKI ...!
HANAE! WHERE ARE YOU?
HE'S AIMING A CROSS BOW AT ME...
SHIT!
AYAKI! AYAKI!
SHIT! SHE'S STILL OFF LINE
HE'LL KILL ME...

A... AYAKI .....!!
OTHERWISE YOU'LL BE KILLED!
QUICK!
TURN YOUR CELL-PHONE ON!

!!
DRAW YOUR GUN! NOW!
WHAT?
INSPECTOR HIMURO...?!
OH! INSPECTOR?
I'M UPSTAIRS RIGHT NOW
OH!
HELLO, IT'S AYAKI!
BEEEP
OH!
IT'S OKAY TO TURN THE PHONE ON, RIGHT?

I HEARD YOUR VOICE THROUGH THE INTERCOM WHILE I WAS TALKING TO NAOMI.
AYAKI, YOU'RE IN FRONT OF THE ROOM WHERE THE INTERCOM IS, RIGHT?
S-SO...
SNAIL IS...
H-HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
!!
...ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR!!
SNAIL IS IN THIS ROOM...
SNAIL IS THERE!
WHAAAT?!
HAVE YOUR GUN READY! QUICK!
R-RIGHT!


LISTEN, AYAKI.
WHEN YOUR EYES MEET THE EYES OF THE PERSON IN THE ROOM, SHOOT IMMEDIATELY! THAT'S SNAIL!
Mizuno
IMMEDIATELY...? WHO IS SNAIL?!
IS IT SOMEONE I KNOW?
YOU DON'T NEED TO KNOW! IF YOU DO, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SHOOT!
I CAN'T SHOOT *WITHOUT* KNOWING IT!
JUST SHOOT OR *YOU'LL* BE SHOT!
SNAIL HAS A CROSS-BOW!
IF YOU HESITATE, YOU'LL BE SHOT!!

BUT...
THAT'S RIGHT! IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE...
...YOU HAVE TO SHOOT FIRST.
CROSS-BOW...? THE THING THAT SHOOTS AN ARROW...?
WHEN I GIVE YOU A SIGNAL...
...SHOOT SNAIL IMMEDIATELY NO MATTER WHO IT IS! TRUST ME!
...AT FIRST I ALWAYS THOUGHT...
...THAT I COULD NEVER TRUST INSPECTOR HIMURO...
...I WAS ALWAYS FORCED TO TRUST YOU, AND...
...YOU MADE ME DO ALL SORTS OF UNBELIEVABLE THINGS... THINGS I NEVER THOUGHT MYSELF CAPABLE OF.
..."WHY DO I HAVE TO WORK FOR A BOSS LIKE HIM...?"

I DO TRUST YOU, INSPECTOR HIMURO.
BUT... NOW... I TRUST YOU!

?!!
NA... NAOMI-SAN?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, NAOMI-SAN...?!

SHOOT, AYAKI!!
WHAT?

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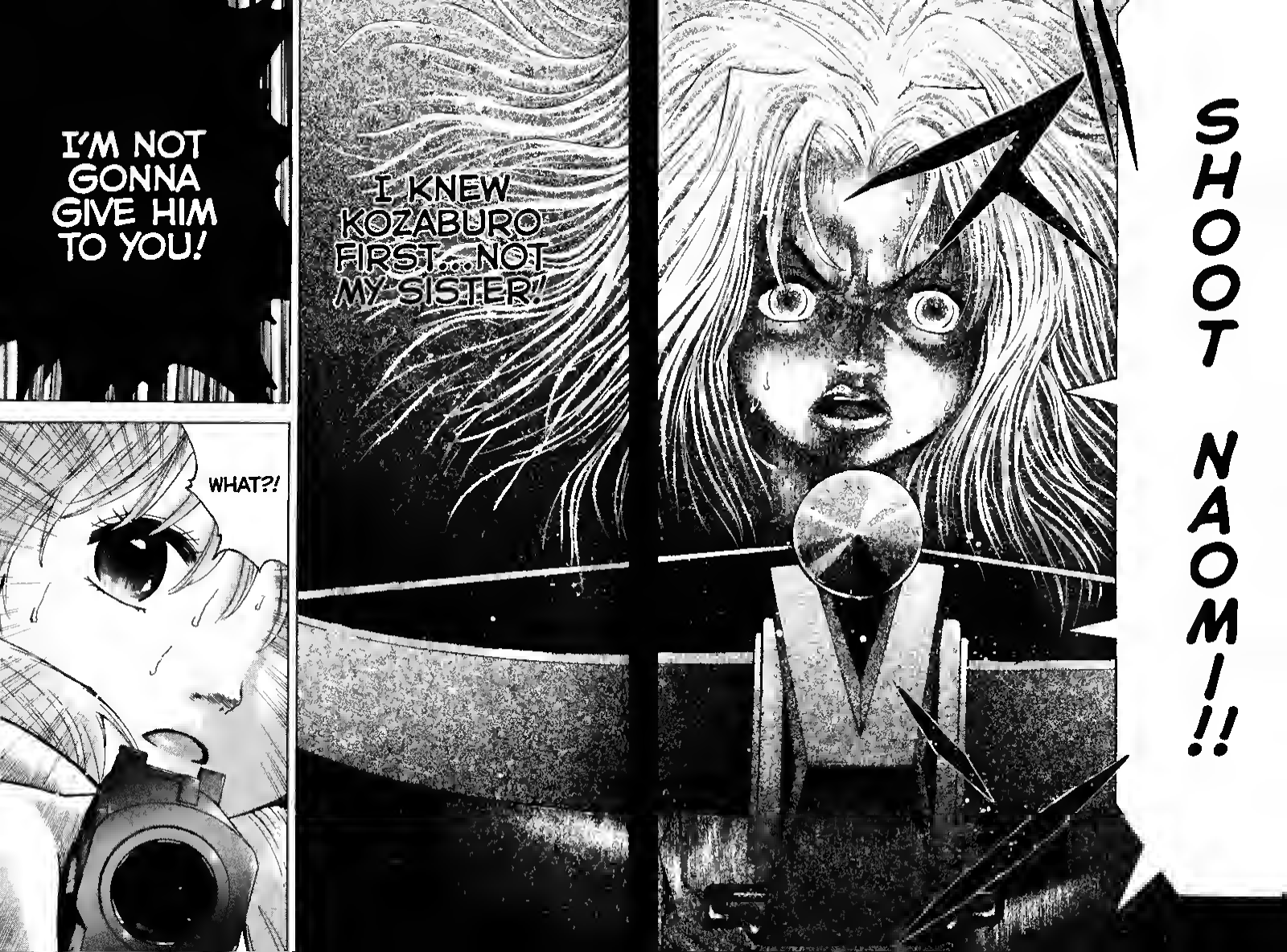
NA...
?!
File 98
Marathon Girl Escape
NAOMI-SAN IS SNAIL ?!!


I'M NOT GONNA GIVE HIM TO YOU!
WHAT?!
I KNEW KOZABURO FIRST...NOT MY SISTER!
SHOOT NAOMI!!

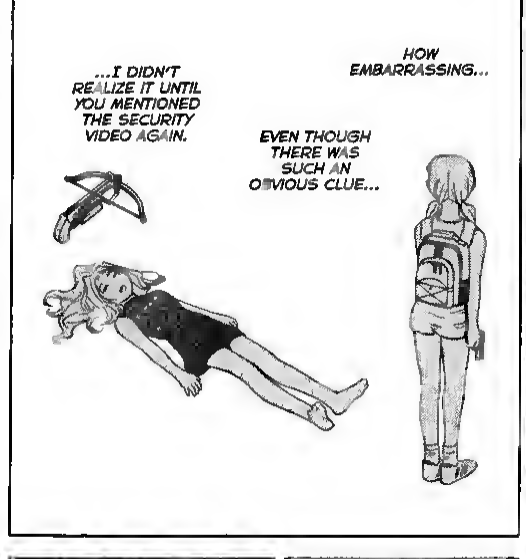
NO
KYAAAAAAAH!
CLICK
CLICK

A...AYAKI!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? ANSWER ME!

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN... I'VE FAILED TO PROTECT THE WOMAN I LOVE...
10
A... AYAKI...

OH...YES, I'M FINE. I SHOT BEFORE SHE FIRED. HER ARROW WENT INTO THE CEILING.
AYAKI, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
INSPEC-TOR...
SHE'LL BE FINE RIGHT?
SHE WON'T DIE IF I SHOOT HER WITH THIS GUN RIGHT?
TH... THIS GUN...
IS THIS REALLY OKAY?
DON'T WORRY. IT'S A STRONG TRANQUILIZING GUN, BUT IT WON'T KILL ANYONE. I TOLD YOU SO WHEN I GAVE IT TO YOU...
HEY, IS HANAE ALL RIGHT?
OH....
IT'S NOT GONNA KILL NAOMI-SAN, RIGHT?

SHE'S PROBABLY DRUGGED-
WAKE UP, HANAE!
ARE YOU OKAY?
SO THIS WHOLE THING...
...WAS STAGED?
IN A SENSE. SHE KIDNAPPED HERSELF.
BUT WHY DID SHE...?
I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED IT WHEN I FIRST SAW THE SECURITY VIDEO.
HEY
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
NOOOO...
NO!
NO WOMAN WOULD RUN TO AN EMPTY STREET WHEN SHE'S ATTACKED AT THE ENTRANCE OF AN APARTMENT BUILDING!


...I DIDN'T REALIZE IT UNTIL YOU MENTIONED THE SECURITY VIDEO AGAIN.
HOW EMBARRASSING...
EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS SUCH AN OBVIOUS CLUE...

NORMALLY SHE WOULD RUN INSIDE THE BUILDING AND RING SOMEONE'S DOORBELL TO ASK FOR HELP.

ISN'T THAT MOTIVE ENOUGH?
HER SISTER DIED BECAUSE OF ME.
REVENGE, I GUESS...
REVENGE...?
I'M NOT GONNA GIVE UP KOZABURO FOR YOU!!
WHAT?
NO...I DON'T THINK SO.

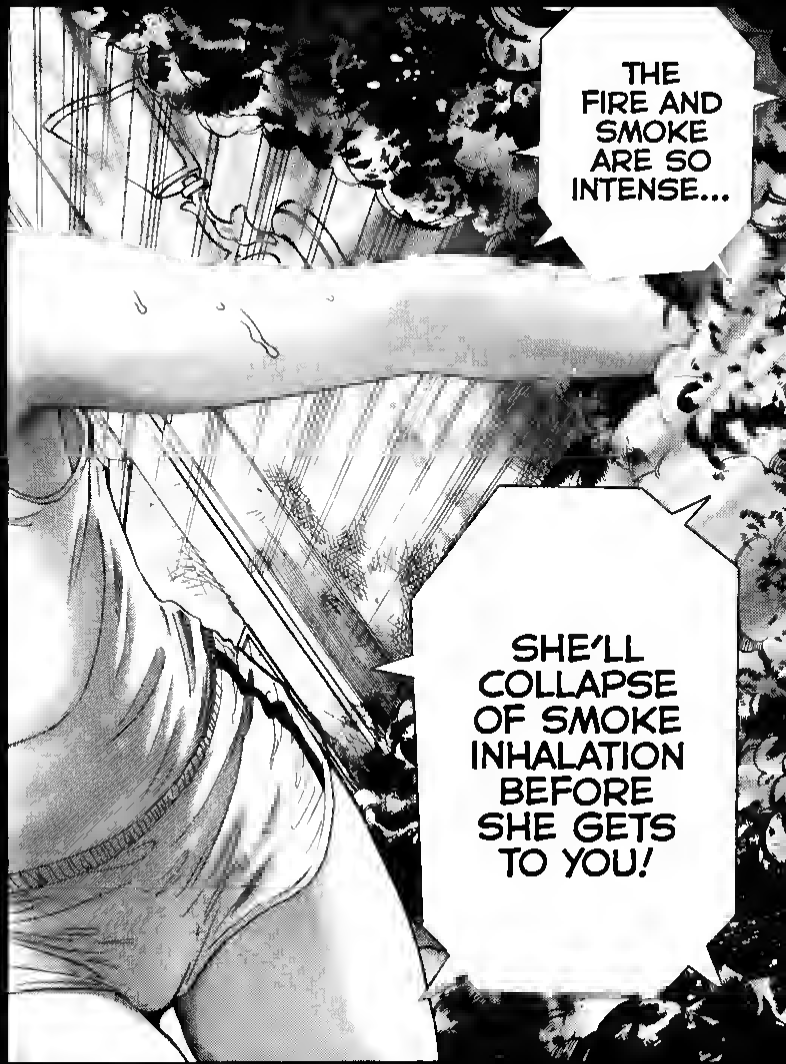
L-LOOK!
OH, HANAE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT...?
KU-RUMI ...
OH, MY GOD! WHAT'S THIS?! A FIRE ...?!

KYAAAH!
IT LOOKS LIKE...THE ARROW OF THE CROSSBOW SHOT SOME PIPE IN THE ATTIC.
CALL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT!
IT'S SPREADING TOO FAST!
F-FIRE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
...AND RUN! NOW!
AYAKI! GRAB NAOMI...
KYAAAH!
CLICK
LET'S DRAG HER OUTSIDE. WE CAN MAKE IT!
HOLD HER LEGS, HANAE...
R-RIGHT
COUGH COUGH...
AYAKI! CALM DOWN...
BEEE

ゴオオ
HANAE! HAVE THESE PEOPLE HELP YOU CARRY NAOMI-SAN
WHAT?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING KURUMI...
ゴオオ
!!
ズキ
PANT, PANT...
ざわざわ

KURUMI!
KU-
M-MASTER KOZABURO!
BREEP
OH, GOD...! KURUMI WENT BACK INSIDE THE HOUSE...
...TO RESCUE YOU!
WH-WHAT?! I'M IN THE BASEMENT! THE SAFEST PLACE IN THE HOUSE!

I HAVE TO RESCUE INSPECTOR HIMURO!


THE FIRE AND SMOKE ARE SO INTENSE...
SHE'LL COLLAPSE OF SMOKE INHALATION BEFORE SHE GETS TO YOU!

SHE'LL DIE!

...IN-SPEC-TOR HIM-URO ...
NO! I'LL RES-CUE YOU... FROM YOUR JAIL!
AYAKI! GO BACK!!

file.98 END

OH MY GOD!
WHAT AN ANGLE TO SHOOT!
Manga-Sketchbook not so proudly presents
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Where ugly art and pointless fanservice combine!

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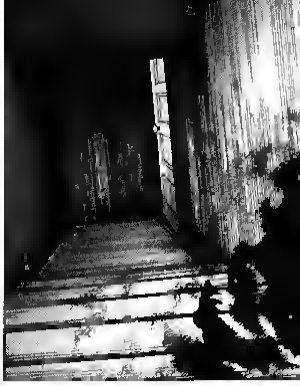
File 99
Marathon Girl Grow
GO BACK, AYAKI ...!!

NEVER
AGAIN...


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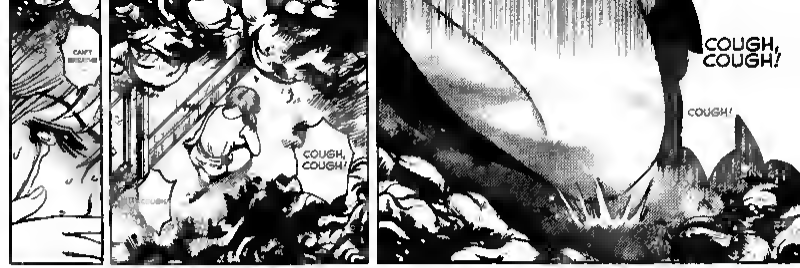
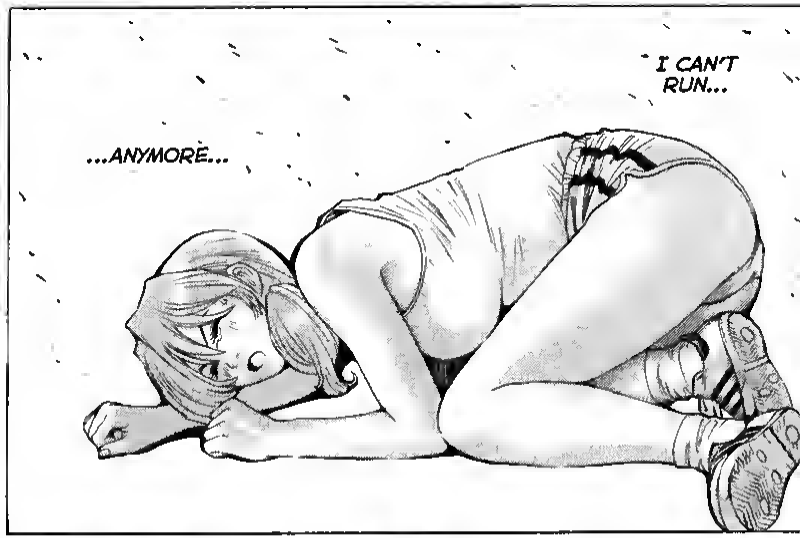
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE SOMEONE I LOVE EVER AGAIN!!


CAN'T BREATHE
COUGH, COUGH!
COUGH, COUGH!
COUGH!


I CAN'T RUN...
...ANYMORE...

INSPECTOR... HIMURO...
INSPECTOR...

...AND KURUMI IS STILL INSIDE, TOO!
HE'S STILL IN THE BASEMENT...
BOB!
HANAE! WHERE'S KOU...?
WHAT?!
WHAT?
I'LL RESCUE THEM.
DON'T WORRY, HANAE...
I'M SORRY... I CAN'T... COUGH... RESCUE YOU...
BO--
BOB!!
WHOAAA!
どすん
どすん

AAAAAAAAAHHH!!
HOLY...
...SHIT...

OH, GOD...
...THE HOUSE OF KOZABURO HIMURO...
...THIS IS ANNEX A...
KOU!
KURUMI!
COUGH, COUGH.
SHIT... WHERE ARE YOU?
SAVE THOSE THREE...
PLEASE...

KO--
KOU!
YOU...
YOU CAME OUT...
UNNGH!
HE LEFT HIS "CRYPT"...
...FOR KURUMI!

TO SAVE
KURUMI!!

DRIP
DRIP
AYAKI... CAN YOU HEAR ME?
YOUR DISOBEYING MY ORDERS...
...MAY YET BE THE DEATH OF YOU...

FUCK!
YOU'RE
...SUCH A TERRIBLE SUBOR-DINATE...

UNTIL YOU, KURUMI AYAKI...
...I THOUGHT I WOULD NEVER LOVE AGAIN!
... INSPEC-TOR HIMURO ...

I'VE BEEN...
...LONG TIME NOW...
FOR A LONG...
SOME-THING TO TELL YOU...
LISTEN...
SSH... ME TOO. FOR A LONG TIME...
...I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU...!!
WHAT?
R-REALLY ...?

BLUSH
MMM
OH, MY GOD...
MMM
...ME, TOO, INSPEC-TOR...
!
HA...
EVEN WHEN WE'RE HOVERING BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH
...YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
TSK.
...AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
SHE'S DREAM-ING...

HOW DO YOU DO, INSPECTOR HIMURO! I'M OFFICER OTAGURO, SIR!! AN...HONOR... TO FINALLY MEET YOU!
OH!
!
TH --
THAT'S HIM...
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE.
KOZABURO HIMURO...

file.99 END